

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز: مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"

Shut protesters attack Saudi mission
BEIRUT (R) — A crowd of armed Lebanese Shiite Muslims today stormed the Saudi Arabian consulate-general in west Beirut, sacking it and setting it ablaze as armed police watched about intervening, eyewitnesses said. They said about 150 young men chanting "Allah Akbar" (God is most great) drove on motorcycles and in cars and hurled stones at the building before scaling a fence and breaking in. Police sources said the youths had earlier joined a protest march through the city against Saudi Arabia's failure to issue visas for the annual pilgrimage to the Muslim Holy City of Mecca. Earlier, Shiite demonstrators marched through the streets with pictures of Iran's Islamic revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomeini. Since the Saudi consulate's closure last February, hundreds of Lebanese Muslims have been making the pilgrimage to Mecca by travelling to Damascus in neighbouring Syria to obtain Saudi visas.

British embassy comes under fire, page 2

Hijacked Indian plane refuelled

KARACHI (R) — Sikh hijackers forced an Indian airliner to Pakistan Friday, where a crippled passenger they freed said he saw bloodstains on a crewmember after a scuffle with the hijackers. A Pakistani government spokesman said the plane, the number aboard now numbering 85, had been refuelled in Karachi and the hijackers wanted to fly to the Middle East. An Indian government minister told parliament during the day that the hijackers had threatened to kill their hostages unless they were given fuel to fly the plane to the United States. A Sikh student group outlawed by the Indian government claimed responsibility for the hijacking, accusing Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's administration of holding 28,000 Sikhs after a crackdown on separatists in Punjab state. The Boeing 737 carried 86 passengers and six crew members when it was commandeered on a flight from Chandigarh to Srinagar in northwest India. Conflicting accounts reckoned the turbaned hijackers to number either six or 12.

June 9 Number 2650

AMMAN, SATURDAY AUGUST 25, 1984, DEUL QADA 27, 1404

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

sad in Libya

RUT (R) — Syrian President Hafez Assad pledged cooperation with Libya when he arrived in Benghazi Thursday night. Assad, the Libyan news agency said Friday. The agency, based in Beirut, said Assad was greeted by the Libyan leader, his number two Major Idris al-Salam Jalloud and a big crowd. It did not say how long the visit would last or indicate specific details of the talks. Assad praised the "great friendship" between Syria and Libya and imperialist dangers to the Arab world. He said he was determined to strike at the Arab world and threatening and destroying its interests.

Israeli soldier killed in Lebanon

LAVIV (R) — An Israeli soldier was killed overnight when an armed personnel carrier he was driving overturned as he was driving near the town of Amik, an army spokesman said. He was the 589th Israeli soldier to die in Lebanon since Israel invaded in June 1982, according to official counts.

Iranian blames France for bombing

TEHRAN (AP) — Hashemi Rafsanjani, the speaker of Iran's parliament, charged Friday France with responsibility for the bombing of the Iranian embassy in London that killed 18 and wounded more than 30 people here on Tuesday. "We consider the French government a party to this because of its treatment of Iranian leaders as political refugees and for providing them with facilities," Mr. Rafsanjani declared.

Controversial Indian governor quits

DELHI (R) — The Andhra Pradesh governor who sparked a political crisis by sacking the state's Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao said Friday he was resigning. Rao had been sacked by the central government after a row over the dismissal of a minister. Rao had been sacked by the central government after a row over the dismissal of a minister.

30-Nazi found in Lebanon

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — A body of a West German Nazi suspected of shooting a Jewish publisher Shlomo Levin was found in Lebanon, Bavarian police said Friday. The corpse had been found in a car. It was said they were sure it was of Uwe Behrendt, a member of the outlawed right-wing extremist "Military Sports Group 'Namn'. Behrendt is believed to have committed suicide in September 1981, police said. Two Israeli policemen investigating the permission of the Beirut government found Behrendt's body buried in the Lebanese settlement of Bir Hassan. It was covered with a plastic bag and a black cloth and is being transferred to Munich for identification.

INSIDE

Tehran explosion kills 18, page 2
Bank supports local council development projects, page 3
It takes pro-Arab sentiments to invite FBI harassment, page 4
Do we respect ourselves as human beings? by Marwan Muasher, page 5
East Germany sets new record in world swimming, page 6
Contracting difficulties surface in Saudi Arabia, page 7
Reagan accepts party nomination, page 8

Iraqi-hit Cypriot ship sinking in Gulf waters

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A Cypriot tanker was attacked and reported sinking Friday in the Gulf waters, six hours after loading oil at Iran's oil terminal at Kharg Island.

Iraq acknowledged its warplanes attacked "a large naval target" south of Kharg Friday morning and said the vessel was set on fire. The stern Iraqi communiqué gave no other details.

Lloyds said the tanker sent out a distress signal a half-hour after the reported Iraqi strike.

The Amethyst, listed by Lloyds as owned by Oriental Amethyst Company Naviera S.A. of Panama, is the 22nd major vessel to have been confirmed hit in the Gulf since late March when the Iran-Iraq war spilled over with attacks on shipping in the waterway.

Lloyds shipping intelligence of London said the 52,581-ton tanker had been hit by a missile and was burning badly.

Gulf shipping sources said rescue tugs were heading for the stricken vessel, about 60 miles south of Kharg Island in the northern Gulf.

Lloyds said the Amethyst had requested immediate helicopter assistance.

Shipping sources said later that 33 Greek and Filipino crewmen were rescued by Iranian air force helicopters but that one seaman, a 37-year-old identified only as Socrates, was still missing.

A shipping executive in Saudi Arabia said it was the first time in the so-called tanker war that a ship began sinking immediately after it was attacked.

One tugboat sailing in the vicinity was rushed to help rescue the Cypriot vessel and two others were sent out from Bahrain by the local branch of the Smit International salvage company, shipping sources said.

Iraq had declared a 50-nautical-mile radius around Kharg an exclusion zone for vessels when it intensified its air and sea blockade earlier this year.

The Cypriot motortanker was reported attacked by shipping sources almost three hours before Iraq made its brief announcement.

This was the second attack by Iraqi warplanes on shipping lanes in the vicinity of Kharg in 24 hours. But the first attack was not directed against a foreign naval vessel.

Iraq on Thursday said its warplanes attacked a "large naval target" south of Kharg. Salvage tugs rushed from Bahrain discovered that the jets had struck an Iranian supply boat, called Rana, which was quickly towed away.

Wazir calls on PLO dissidents to join 'comprehensive dialogue'

By Lamin K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN (J.T.) — The deputy military commander of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Khalil Al-Wazir, on Thursday appealed to dissident Palestinian factions to join in a comprehensive Palestinian dialogue, while a dissident leader demanded the ouster of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat as the basis of such a dialogue.

In a statement circulated by the PLO main office here, Mr. Wazir (Abu Jihad) urged four dissident factions, which are grouped in a "national alliance," to abandon "its negative attitude and to join an inter-factional Palestinian dialogue" which is scheduled to take place in the beginning of September. Mr. Wazir, who is also a member of the Central Committee of PLO, the mainstream commando organisation with the PLO, said that "We (Fateh) are ready to listen to their complaints with open hearts and make a fresh start."

The Fateh leader's statement came in response to a declaration by the "national alliance" last week that the four factions will boycott the coming session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) next September. In his statement, Mr. Wazir said that the boycott will not stop the PNC from convening but that "we are willing to give a chance to the 'national alliance' to join in the dialogue before the PNC convenes."

A leader of the "national alliance", however, told the Jordan Times that his group's decision to

encourage Israel to implement its colonial policy and to exercise economic pressures on the people in the occupied Arab territories, in its attempts to evacuate the land from its legal owners.

Meanwhile in Washington, in response to questions about Israeli press reports that the United States may be considering a massive injection of economic assistance for the ailing Israeli economy, State Department spokesman Alan Romberg said Thursday, "The United States has traditionally been concerned with Israel's economic well-being."

The deputy spokesman said the two governments consult periodically on Israel's economic problems and on other aspects of the U.S.-Israeli economic relationship.

"As for a plan or some sort of activity of that sort regarding Israel's economy, we would expect that the Israeli government would take measures necessary to deal with its economic problems," Mr. Romberg said. "And we would expect to continue close consultations with the government of Israel on that subject."

Such aids, Mr. Ohaidi added, encourage Israel to implement its colonial policy and to exercise economic pressures on the people in the occupied Arab territories, in its attempts to evacuate the land from its legal owners.

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Tremors shake Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Citizens in Jordan Friday morning felt a medium tremor, particularly in the northern areas of the Kingdom. The earthquake lasted for 10 seconds but did not cause any damage or destruction, according to official sources.

Another light earthquake measuring 3.4 on the Richter scale was felt afterwards at 11:27 a.m. 35 kilometres from the Israeli city of Haifa.

Natural Resources Authority (NRA) officials confirmed in an interview with Jordan Television Friday that two earthquakes struck the Eastern Mediterranean area Friday morning. The official said that the first earthquake measured 5.3 on the Richter scale which means that the earthquake measured nine on the Richter scale in Haifa. The earthquake was felt by people in north of Jordan but no damages were reported.

The tremor was felt in many parts of Israel over a 300 kilometre area from north of Lebanon to southern Israel. It registered five points on the Richter scale according to the head of the Israeli geological institute.

Haifa, Israel's third largest city with a population of 250,000, sustained the greatest amount of damage. Police said they received dozens of calls about cracked walls and broken windows, but no damage estimates were available.

On Wednesday, a slight tremor measuring 3.8 on the Richter scale struck the southern brink of Wadi Al Moujib in southern Jordan, 16 kilometres east of the Dead Sea. Seismologists at the geological section at the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) said the tremor felt by residents of the area did not cause any damage.

On July 21, two mild tremors occurred in Amman and its suburbs measuring 1.3 on the Richter scale followed by another registering 0.9 a few seconds later, the head seismologist at the University of Jordan said.

Another report on the same tremor from NRA seismologists the day after denied the tremor reports and said that what Jordanians felt resulted from unidentified airplanes breaking the sound barrier. But the University of Jordan centre reiterated and assured Jordanians that what they felt was an earth tremor.

Joint committee to meet

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for Supporting the Steadfastness of the People Living in the Occupied Territories is due to meet here Saturday to review educational, agricultural and industrial services to the Palestinian population under Israeli rule.

The Palestinian side to the talks will be led by Khalil Al Wazir, deputy military commander of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Beirut warns Beirut government not to 'exploit' army chief's death

BEIRUT (R) — The chief-of-staff of the Lebanese army, Druze General Nadim Hakim, was killed in a helicopter crash in north Lebanon Thursday, an army statement said.

Shortly after announcement of the crash, in which seven other servicemen and a civilian photographer aboard were killed, cabinet minister and militia leader Walid Junblatt warned that the administration of President Amin Gemayel "should not try to profit from the general's death."

The army statement said all nine passengers aboard, including Seventh Brigade Commander Colonel Nabra Al Shalouh, were killed when the helicopter plowed into a mountain top while flying through dense fog.

The helicopter was flying from the northern town of Ehden, summer headquarters of former President Suleiman Franjieh, to the Defence Ministry outside Beirut, about 70 kilometres south, the statement added.

"First reports indicated the incident resulted from poor visibility caused by dense fog," the statement said. "The army command

has established an investigation committee to probe the circumstances of the crash."

Mr. Junblatt, head of the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militia, later said in a broadcast on official PSP radio:

"Whatever the investigation, it will not be convincing to us. The death of General Hakim — I will not say his assassination — will only increase our determination to pursue the struggle for the liberation of Lebanon from fascism and from this cursed ruling (Christian Falangist) party."

He urged the army to complete the investigation quickly "so that this incident may not be added to the long series of ambiguous incidents which have taken place in the past, including car bombs and assassinations."

Mr. Junblatt, whose militia is engaged against the army and mostly Christian militiamen in the mountains southeast of Beirut, warned army leaders and the administration against trying "to profit from the absence of the patriotic General Hakim at this critical period through which the country is living."

Junblatt says Gemayel administration unwilling to discuss political reforms, page 2

Israeli court orders halt to major settlement project

TEL AVIV (R) — A Palestinian who owns land on which Israel's largest West Bank Jewish settlement is being built won a temporary court order Thursday to stop building work.

The supreme court issued the order after the Palestinian, Saif Al-Rachman Mustafa Bahloul, complained that Israeli authorities in the occupied West Bank had ignored previous court rulings to suspend building at the settlement town of Emmanuel until the land dispute was resolved.

The town, planned to house 80,000 Jews and located 35 kilometres northeast of Tel Aviv, is populated by ultra-orthodox Haredi Jews, many of them new immigrants from the United States and Britain.

Meanwhile the Israeli occupation authorities have launched a recruitment drive to increase their presence on the occupied

West Bank, but are having difficulty in finding suitable personnel, according to senior Justice Ministry officials.

The officials, who spoke to Reuters on condition that they not be named, said the government had authorised a 50 per cent increase in the number of security officials permanently stationed in the area.

They said it was proving difficult to find qualified candidates willing to fill the vacant posts.

"We don't have enough qualified people who speak Arabic and many people are not willing to serve there," one official said.

He said there had been a marked improvement in West Bank "law enforcement" since February when the government published a report by Deputy Attorney General Yehudit Karp on the failure of the authorities to deal with violent attacks by Israelis against local Palestinians.

'New ideas' reported in Labour-Likud negotiation

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The leaders of Israel's two main political parties, the Labour Party and the right-wing Likud, said Friday they had found new ideas to break the deadlock on forming a "national unity" coalition.

Labour leader Shimon Peres, designated as the next prime minister because his party won most seats in last month's inconclusive general election, held an hour and a half of talks with Likud leader Yitzhak Shamir, the present prime minister.

They told reporters they had agreed not to disclose details of their talks.

They had been expected to concentrate on three main sticking points — Jewish settlement of occupied Arab lands, the basis for negotiations with Jordan, and which of them should be prime minister in a unity government.

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The French minehunter Eridan waits in Port Said harbour Friday before transiting the Suez Canal for the Gulf of Suez to join a multi-national fleet searching for mines in the gulf and the Red Sea (AP wirephoto).

Week of intensive hunting fails to produce mines in Red Sea

CAIRO (Agencies) — After a week of intensive searching, none of the three Western nations in the mine-hunting force here had found any of the explosives laid in the Gulf of Suez or the Red Sea, and Egypt still had no concrete evidence Friday to back up its suspicion that Libya is the culprit.

The series of mysterious explosions began July 9 and damaged at least 18 ships, seven of them in the Gulf of Suez, a northern branch of the Red Sea. The last report was Aug. 15 when a Cypriot cargo vessel was hit in the southern part of the Red Sea. There have been no explosions in the Gulf since July 25.

The Egyptians say they are nearly certain that Libya is responsible for laying the mines in the strategic waterway. President Hosni Mubarak, speaking to reporters Friday, said: "I think there is much evidence to prove that it is Libya." He admitted the evidence

is circumstantial, however, adding: "But we have big suspicions about Libya."

Egypt apparently now has excluded Iran as a suspect. Earlier, Egyptian officials had not entirely ruled out the Iranians because of Iran's threat to extend the war in the Arabian Gulf to the Red Sea, but when asked about it, Mr. Mubarak said that Libya was the only suspect.

Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid, talking with reporters on Thursday, also said the evidence was not concrete.

"In the legal sense, there is no proof," he said. But he added there is circumstantial evidence linking the passage of some Libyan ships and the times of the explosions.

"The Suez Canal authorities have checked the timings, but until now we have no definite proof and that is why we have not barred any ship from passage through the canal," Mr. Abdul Meguid said.

The only claim of responsibility has come from the pro-Iranian group calling itself Islamic Jihad (holy war), which said it planted 192 mines in the Gulf and the Red Sea.

Asked about the five Soviet ships that had passed through the Suez Canal since last weekend, apparently on mine-hunting missions in the southern Red Sea, Mr. Mubarak said it was only to be expected.

"The Soviet Union is a superpower," he said. "She has her own interests there in the northern part of the Red Sea, so why not work there?"

A Soviet cruiser carrying three helicopters and a destroyer went through the canal early Thursday. Harbour officials at Port-Saïd said both vessels were carrying anti-mine and anti-submarine warfare equipment.

Lebanon seeks U.N. help as Israel implements water plan

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami Friday briefed envoys of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council on Israeli actions in South Lebanon and ordered Lebanon's U.N. delegate to lodge a formal complaint against Israel with the council amid reports from the south that Israeli occupation forces were implementing a plan to divert Lebanese waters across the border.

Beirut Radio reported that Mr. Karami, who is also foreign minister, called instructions to U.N. Ambassador Rashid Fakhouri in New York shortly after meeting the envoys of the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China.

Mr. Karami told reporters the envoys of the "big five" powers had listened with understanding to his complaints against Israel's "fascist practices."

The Beirut government's U.N. initiative is a bid to rally international pressure against Israel's harsh measures to put down armed resistance in the south. It also seeks an eventual end to Israel's two-year occupation of the south.

Mr. Karami said his talks with the five envoys dealt with the human impact of Israeli measures on the largely Shiite Muslim population.

"We did not deal with the problem politically but from the human side and how to put an end to such fascist practices," Mr. Karami said. "I found understanding from these friends."

One of the five diplomats told Reuters the government had compiled "a substantial document" of complaints against Israel for presentation to the Security Council.

Asked if Mr. Karami would succeed in winning the support of the five powers at the Security Council, he said much would depend on how Lebanon presented the document. The diplomat declined to elaborate.

Lebanon is hoping to avert any veto in the Security Council by the United States, Israel's main ally, if

(Continued on page 3)

Junblatt warns Beirut government not to 'exploit' army chief's death

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Tehran bomb kills 18

TEHRAN (R) — A bomb exploded in a crowded street in south Tehran Thursday killing at least 18 people, and two opposition groups later claimed responsibility.

Over 300 people were also injured, some of them critically, when the bomb exploded by a fruit juice stall opposite Tehran Railway Station at 8.50 am (0520 GMT), the National News Agency IRNA said.

Responsibility for the attack was claimed in Paris by the Monarchist Iranian Exile group ARYA. The claim was made in a telephone call to an international news organisation by a man speaking poor English, who said the group would strike again.

"We want (Iranian spiritual leader) Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini to remember our name and stop killing our people," he said, adding "we will continue."

Well informed Iranian sources in Paris said ARYA is based in Los Angeles and produces newspapers and posters promoting the claims to the throne of Reza Pahlavi, son of the late Shah overthrown in Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Another, previously unknown group calling itself the "unit of martyr Kalaghi" also said it was behind the attack in a call to an international news organisation in Tehran.

The explosion, which Tehran Radio said was from a 25-kilogramme bomb, was the first in the capital for two years.

Many people at the scene blamed it on the outlawed Mujahedin, an outlawed left-wing group based in Paris which has

meini's support and they try to maintain themselves in power by this type of action."

The bomb was planted under a car parked near the fruit juice stall and devastated a row of shops, IRNA said. A clothes store, fruit stores and confectioners were wrecked.

The explosion occurred at a particularly busy time of day, when the street was bustling with people going to and from the station, the agency added.

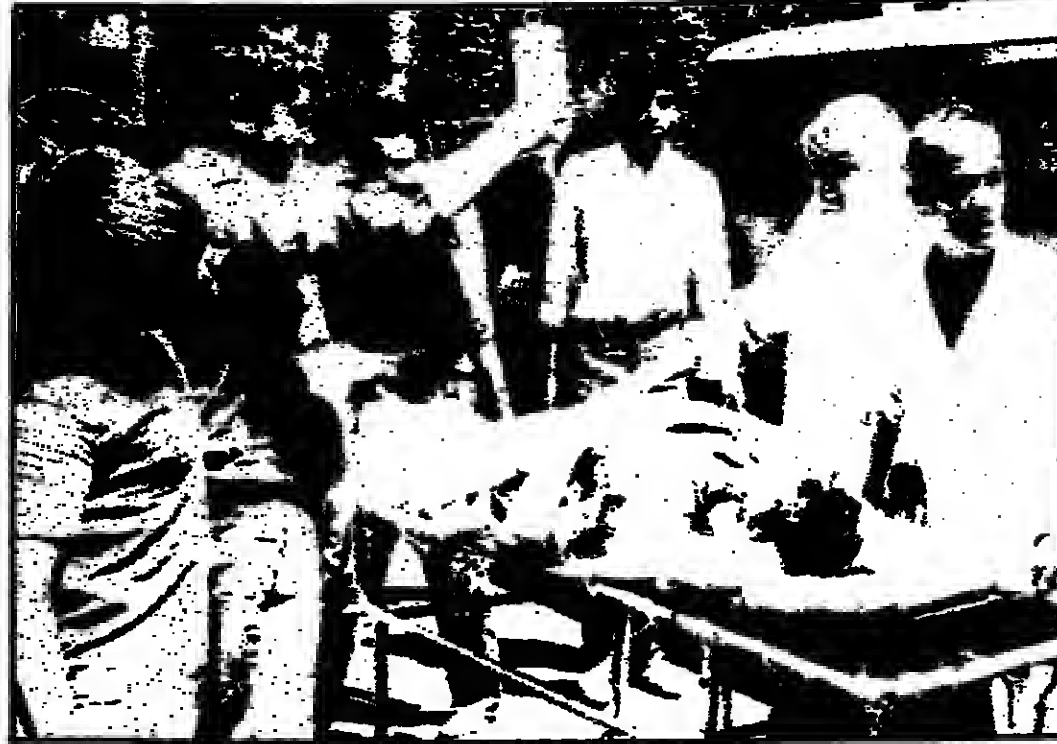
Revolutionary Guards kept reporters at a distance after the blast as mobile cranes shifted wrecked cars and sweepers moved in to clear the debris.

Monarchists deny

In Frankfurt, West Germany, the head of a monarchist Iranian exile group denied responsibility Thursday for the bomb attack in Tehran. Hechmat Sabok Sir, who said he was president of a Monarchist exile group called "ARIAN", said a claim purporting to come from his organisation in Paris was a hoax.

"We are a Monarchist group and are opposed to all forms of terrorism," he told Reuters in a telephone interview. "The bomb may have been planted by the Iranian authorities themselves as an excuse to execute about 20 of our members being held in Iranian prisons," he said.

Mr. Sabok Sir, who lives with his family near Frankfurt, said ARIAN was waging a political campaign to promote the claims to the throne of Reza Pahlavi, son of the late Shah overthrown in Iran's 1979 revolution. He would not say where ARIAN was based.



A victim of a bomb explosion near Tehran's main railway station receives medical attention Thursday (AP wirephoto)

Junblatt says Gemayel's administration unwilling to discuss political reforms

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese Cabinet Minister Walid Junblatt, who leads a powerful militia, accused President Amin Gemayel's administration Wednesday night of refusing to discuss political reforms and of trying to partition the nation.

In remarks broadcast on his official Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) radio station, Mr. Junblatt said the administration's "refusal to embark on the implementation of political reforms" was related to recent fighting between PSP militiamen and Falangist forces in the mountains southeast of Beirut.

In the northern port of Tripoli, heavy fighting resumed Wednesday night between rival militias. Security sources said the casualty toll had risen to 105 people killed and about 300 wounded since Monday.

Repeated efforts by a Tripoli security committee failed to halt street clashes and artillery duels between the Sunni Muslim "Islamic Unification Movement" (Tawheed) and pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party (ADP) militias.

At least three people were killed and 25 wounded during fighting between the longtime rival groups and clashes continued late into the night, the sources said.

In the mountains south east of Beirut, Mr. Junblatt's PSP militia traded small-arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades with the Lebanese army and Falangist militiamen, Beirut security sources said.

The "National Unity" Government has tried unsuccessfully for more than a month to introduce a peace plan in the area. The plan had been expected to be a major agenda item during a regular cabinet meeting at the Presidential Palace.

However, Mr. Junblatt was prevented from attending the session after relatives of hostages kidnapped by militias used blazing weapons to block the road he was to have taken.

The cabinet voted in his absence to lodge a complaint in the U.N. Security Council about Israeli actions in occupied South Lebanon and decided to devote a special session on Saturday to the mountain peace plan.

In east Beirut, an evening news broadcast was delayed for two

hours after other kidnap protesters occupied a semi-official television station.

Beirut Radio said the army was called in to remove the demonstrators. An army communiqué later said gatherings would be banned near the station and Presidential Palace.

In his radio broadcast, Mr. Junblatt urged Mr. Gemayel to move future cabinet sessions from the palace so the government "may complete, albeit with difficulty, the peace process."

He said the palace or other east Beirut locations would "not be appropriate" for future cabinet sessions, but it was not clear whether he was threatening to boycott those venues.

Mr. Junblatt used the time away from the cabinet meeting to tour Beirut's Muslim southern suburbs, which were heavily damaged during recent months of fighting.

"My visit to the suburbs increased my conviction about this regime's trends toward partition... the destruction of the suburbs... is part of the separatist, isolationist political plan of the Falangists," he said.

Egyptian ambassador leaves for Moscow

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's newly appointed ambassador to Moscow, Salah Bassiouni, left Cairo Thursday to take up his post in the Soviet capital, upgrading diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The late President Anwar Sadat expelled the Soviet ambassador to Cairo in 1981, accusing him of fomenting internal trouble, and

recalled Cairo's ambassador to Moscow.

The two countries agreed last month to restore the ambassadors to their posts. President Hosni Mubarak said at the time the step had no special significance but came within the context of normalising relations with a superpower.

Mr. Bassiouni told reporters at

Cairo Airport he would stop in Vienna on a private visit and expected to take up his post at the beginning of September.

He expressed hope that relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union "would run their natural course in the interests of both countries and on the basis of mutual respect for the policies and principles of either country."

Israeli jailed for refusing to serve in Lebanon

TEL AVIV (R) — A 46-year-old Israeli reserve soldier was sentenced to 14 days in military jail for refusing to serve in Lebanon, a spokesman for an anti-Lebanon war group said.

He was the 132nd Israeli soldier to refuse on grounds of conscientious objection to go to Lebanon, according to the anti-war group Yesh Gvul (there's a limit). Israel has an estimated 10,000

troops in Lebanon occupying South Lebanon since invading the area in June 1982 to drive Palestinian commandos from its border.

Jordan seeks unified Arab position on West Bank economy

KUWAIT (I.T.) — Minister of Industry Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani has called on Arab countries to take a unified position with regard to developing the economy of the occupied West Bank and helping the steadfastness of its people.

He said in a statement published by Al Yaqatha magazine here, that the development of the West Bank's economy is a joint Arab responsibility and Arab countries should not leave the West Bank under Israel's mercy, because Israeli aims at annexing that territory.

Prior to the 1967 occupation, the West Bank inhabitants were 700,000 and after 17 years they grew only by 50,000, which is a

very low growth rate compared with other parts of the Arab World, the minister said.

In 17 years, the population of the West Bank would have grown to 1.5 million under normal conditions, the minister added.

In answer to a question, the minister said that the projected pipeline to carry crude oil from Iraq to the port city of Aqaba will be implemented, and initial studies for the scheme have been completed.

The cost of the project is expected to amount to \$1 billion and the pipeline will extend to 950 kilometres across the Jordan and Iraq territory, Dr. Anani said. According to the plan this pipeline, he said, will carry nearly one million barrels of crude oil daily.

Klibi to attend economic council meeting in Amman

TUNIS (I.T.) — Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi is due to visit Amman on Aug. 28 to take part in a meeting of the Arab Social and Economic Council.

He will make the visit to Amman after a two day stay in Baghdad starting Saturday where he will attend a meeting on the development of the Gulf War due to open on Aug. 26, according to a correspondent for the Jordanian News Agency, Petra here.

Petra said that Mr. Klibi met Thursday with Jordan's ambassador to Tunisia Nabih Al Nimr to discuss subjects on the agenda of the Arab League Council's meeting due in Tunis on Sept. 13.

They also discussed efforts being exerted for the convening an Arab summit meeting in Riyadh in November, Petra said.

According to Petra the Arab

League General Secretariat issued a statement in which it said that the 37th meeting of the Arab Economic and Social Council meeting in Amman will discuss 22 subjects dealing with inter-Arab economic relations, and the activities of the joint Arab economic projects.

Also on the agenda is the relationship between the Arab countries and the European Community and the latter's intention to take steps that would violate the Arab boycott office's regulations and the consequences of the establishment of a projected joint U.S.-Israeli free trade zone, Petra added.

The agency said that the meeting will also discuss establishing an Arab agency for offshore involvement of Arab workers in Arab states.

Arab ministers to discuss Gulf war in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — Seven Arab foreign ministers will meet in Baghdad next Sunday to discuss latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war, the official Iraqi News Agency INA reported Thursday.

The ministers, from Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Morocco, North Yemen and Tunisia, will discuss the war and a new plan "to activate world efforts in the

face of Iranian intransigence," INA said. It gave no details of the plan.

The meeting follows a decision by Arab Foreign Ministers' floor last March to set up a committee on the conflict.

It has previously met in Tunis. Arab League Secretary-General Cheddi Klibi will also attend Sunday's discussions, INA added.

Jordan invited to Arab citrus development seminar

TUNIS (Petra) — The Arab League has extended an invitation to Jordan to take part in a seminar on developing Arab citrus fruit exports which is due to open in Tunis on Dec. 8.

The seminar is organised by the Tunisia-based centre for promoting exports in cooperation

with the General Federation of the Arab Chambers of Commerce Industry and Agriculture.

The seminar will discuss the citrus situation in the Arab World and ways to overcome obstacles impeding imports and exports and cooperation in marketing the product in the Arab World.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:30	..... Koran
17:40	..... Cartoons
18:00	..... Childrens Programme
18:30	..... Childrens Programme
18:55	..... Little Hobo
19:15	..... Programme Review
19:30	..... Local Promenade
20:00	..... News in Arabic
20:30	..... Arabic Series
21:30	..... Weekly Newscast
22:15	..... Arabic Play
23:00	..... News in Arabic
23:10	..... Play Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00	..... French Programme
19:00	..... News in French
19:30	..... News in Hebrew
20:20	..... Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady
21:00	..... Amazing years of Cinema
21:25	..... Saturday Variety Show
22:03	..... News in English
22:15	..... Feature film: Eric

RADIO JORDAN

855 kHz AM & 99 MHz FM
as per on 9560 KHz SW

07:00	..... Light Music
07:30	..... Newsdesk
08:00	..... Morning Show
08:30	..... News Summary
09:00	..... Morning Show
10:00	..... News Summary
11:00	..... Pop Session
11:45	..... News Summary
12:00	..... News Summary
12:03	..... Pop Session
13:00	..... News Summary
13:05	..... Pop Session
14:00	..... News Bulletin
14:10	..... Jordan Weekly
14:30	..... Music
15:00	..... Concert Hour
16:00	..... News Summary
16:05	..... Instrumentals
16:30	..... Old Favourites
17:00	..... Special Feature
17:30	..... News Summary
18:00	..... News Summary
18:05	..... Top Twenty
19:00	..... News
19:30	..... Date with a Star
20:00	..... Good Old Days
20:30	..... Just a Minute
21:00	..... News Summary

21:05	..... Country Music
21:25	..... News Summary
22:00	..... Play of the Week
22:30	..... News Summary
23:05	..... Classical Concert
24:00	..... News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00	Newsdesk 06:30 Swinging Sixties
06:30	National 06:55 6:55 Local News
07:00	World News 07:29 24 Hours
07:30	News Summary 07:50 Double Act
08:00	The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30
08:30	Album Time 09:00 World News 09:30
09:30	24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 Guitar Workshop 09:45 Merchant Navy Programme 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 Music: Composers 10:30 Brain of Britain 1914 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:39 Look Ahead 11:45 Soviet Life through Official Literature 12:15 Letter from America 12:30 Business Matters 13:00 World News 13:09 News About Britain 13:15 About Britain 13:30 Meridian 13:40 The World 14:00 14:15 Laz for the Asking 14:40 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Margaret 15:45 Saturday Special 17:00 Radio Britain 17:15 Sunday Special 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Saturday Special 19:00 News Summary 19:02 Saturday Special

VOICE OF AMERICA

1260 MW. 7200, 9565, 17140 11025 and 15210 KHz.

06:00 VOA Morning: News on the hour; news summaries; daily business report; science and medicine; sports reports; editorial; world and U.S. opinion roundups; documentary analysis; American viewpoints; features 17:00 News 17:10 This Week 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 American viewpoints 18:30 Press Conference USA 19:00 News 19:10 This Week 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:30 Weekend Survey of World News 21:00 Correspondent's Reports, Music, Cultural Events and Features 21:30 News 21:10 American Viewpoints 21:30 Press Conference USA 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA 12:00 Weekend Survey of World News. Correspondent's Reports, Music, Cultural events and Features

WHAT'S GOING ON	
CULTURAL CENTRES	Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 371.69.
Royal Cultural Centre. Tel. 6610267	
American Centre. 44371	
American Centre Library. 41520	
British Council. 36147-8	
French Cultural Centre. 37000	
Goethe Institute. 41993	
Soviet Cultural Centre. 44203	
Spanish Cultural Centre. 24049	
Turkish Cultural Centre. 39777	
Haya Arts Centre. 665195	
Hussein Youth Club. 667181	
Y.W.C.A. 41793	
Y.W.M.C.A. 664251	
American Municipal Library. 36111	
University of Jordan Library. 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Chalced Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muzayrah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.	
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabal Luweibdeh, 37440.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Hussein, 661757.	
Church of the Ascension (Greek Orthodox): Abdali, 23541.	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabal Amman, 41559.	
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. 771331.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. 775261.	
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh, 771751.	
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 816534.	
PRAYER TIMES	
03:40 Fajr	
07:07 Sunrise	
11:30 Dhuhir	
15:16 Asr	
18:08 Maghreb	
19:35 Isha	

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
AMMAN AIRPORT	This information is supplied by Alia International Airport, tel. (06) 53250, 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified.
ARRIVALS	06:50 Cairo (MS) 09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ) 09:30 Amman (RJ) 09:30 Karachi, Dhaka (RJ) 09:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ) 09:45 Kuwait (RJ) 09:45 Riyadh (RJ) 09:45 Jeddah (MS) 09:45 Dhahran (RJ) 10:00 Beirut (RJ) 10:00 Cairo (RJ) 10:00 Singapore (RJ) 12:05 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF) 12:30 Moscow (SU) 12:30 Larnaca (CY) 14:00 Kuwait (KU) 17:10 Paris, Damascus (AF) 17:30 New York, Vienna (RJ) 18:00 Belgrade, Istanbul (RJ) 18:30 Cairo (RJ) 18:45 Rome, Damascus (AZ) 19:00 Tripoli (RJ) 19:25 Beirut (ME/A) 19:30 Frankfurt, Damascus (LJ) 20:30 Cairo (MS) 06:45 Cairo (RJ) 01:10 Baghdad (RJ)
DEPARTURES	05:10 Damascus, Frankfurt (LJ) 05:45 Cairo (RJ) 06:30 Beirut (RJ) 06:30 Cairo (MS) 07:15 Amman (RJ) 08:15 Beirut (ME/A) 08:30 Athens (OA) 11:15 Tripoli (RJ) 11:45 Geneva, Madrid (RJ) 14:30 Paris, London (GF) 15:15 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ) 15:30 New York, Vienna (RJ) 15:30 Rome (RJ) 15:30 Moscow (SU) 15:30 Larnaca (CY) 16:30 Bahrain, Doha, Muscat (GF) 16:30 Cairo (RJ) 15:40 Kuwait (RJ) 19:30 Kuwait (RJ) 20:15 Jeddah (RJ) 20:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 20:45 Cairo (RJ) 21:10 Baghdad (RJ) 21:30 Cairo (MS)
MARITIME TRAFFIC	Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: --- Jarash --- Abha Zahabia --- Kota Muzai --- Bagha Karachi --- Baghdad --- Malakoudy --- Solly --- Dakhara Dzhahery --- Salyor Gorkhnikar --- Elarshi --- Jeddah Crown --- Al Zahra --- Aqaba Crown Amin Kavar and Seas Company, Tel. 22324 (ext. lines) at your service.
MONEY EXCHANGE	Local selling rates in J.S. Belgian franc 65.5 / 65.9 Dutch guilder 119.1 / 119.8 Egyptian pound 318.3 / 321.6 French franc 43.7 / 44 Iraqi dinar 396.6 / 405 Italian lire (for 100) 21.7 / 21.9 Japanese yen (for 100) 159.3 / 160.9 Kuwaiti dirham 130.5 / 1310 Lebanese lira 60.9 / 61.8 Omani rial 1100 / 1122.3 Qatari riyal 105.5 / 106.1 Saudi riyal 109.4 / 119.8 Swedish crown 46.4 / 46.7 Swiss franc 161.2 / 162.2 Syrian lira 47.1 / 47.8 UAE dirham 104.8 / 105.3 U.K. sterling pound 505.9 / 508.9 U.S. dollar 357.5 / 357.5 W. German mark 134.3 / 135.1
WEATHER	Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. It will be fair, with slight increase in temperature and northwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and new calm. Lowlight temperature in deg.C: Amman 16/30 Aqaba 20/36 Dumana 16/35 Jordan Valley 21/36

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
EMERGENCIES	778959 Ambulance 193, 775111 Fire, police 199 Blood bank 775121 Civil Defence 661111 Fire headquarters 22090-3 Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777 Police headquarters 39141 Traffic police 36990-1 Ambulance 43262 Electric Power Co. 36381-2 Municipal water service 77125-8 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333 University Hospital 845845 Der Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158 Al-Mashraf Hospital 667227-9 The Islamic, Abdali 665292 Al-Abil, Abdali 666164 Italian, Al-Mohajer 77101-3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111 Army, Marza 91611
HOSPITALS	Hussein Medical Centre 813813-32 Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4 Akheh Maternity, J. Amman 42441 Jabal Amman Maternity 42362 Malina, J. Amman 36140 Palestine, Shmeisani 664171-4 Shmeisani Hospital 669131 University Hospital 845845 Der Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158 Al-Mashraf Hospital 667227-9 The Islamic, Abdali 665292 Al-Abil, Abdali 666164 Italian, Al-Mohajer 77101-3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111 Army, Marza 91611
GENERAL	Jordan Television 73111 Radio Jordan 74111 Ministry of Tourism 42311 Hotel complaints 666412 Price complaints 661176 Telephone: Information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 10 Overseas calls 17 Cable or telegram 18 Repair service 11
MARKET PRICES	Upper/lower price in J.S. per kg. Apple (golden) 300 / 250 Apple (red) 280 / 230 Apple (pink) 280 / 230 Banana 250 / 240 Banana (Mukammal) 240 / 210 Bitter melon 270 / 240 Cabbage 140 / 110 Cauliflower (white) 130 / 100 Cauliflower (red) 150 / 120 Cherries (all kinds) 350 / 450 Cucumber (large) 250 / 100 Cucumber (small) 250 / 100 Eggplant (large) 100 / 70 Eggplant (small) 130 / 100 Figs 180 / 140 Garlic (without leaves) 200 / 160 Grapes 180 / 130 Guava 420 / 380 Lemon 160 / 130 Mallow 60 / 40 Marrow (large) 130 / 100 Marrow (small) 210 / 180 Okra (dry) 160 / 130 Okra 250 / 440 Parsley 350 / 300 Peas 300 / 250 Peas (sweet) 500 / 450 Pepper (hot green) 140 / 110 Pumpkin 100 / 120 Pumpkin (sweet) 300 / 250 Raddish 180 / 140 Spinach 210 / 180 Sweet melon 120 / 90 Water Melon 140 / 110

Jelani

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hikmat stands in for information minister

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree was issued appointing Mr. Taher Hikmat as Acting Minister of Information in addition to his post as minister of transport. Mr. Hikmat will handle the affairs of the Information Ministry during the absence of Information Minister Laila Sharaf who is spending a holiday abroad.

PTC buses transport pilgrims

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Public Transport Corporation (PTC) has assigned 60 buses to transport Muslim pilgrims to Mecca for this year's pilgrimage. PTC Director Ibrahim Mahadin said that the absence of this number of buses from Amman and other towns will not affect transportation. The PTC now owns a fleet of 430 buses of which 250 operate in the Amman region. Mr. Mahadin said he added that all buses going to Mecca will be back in the country before the re-opening of schools for the coming scholastic year in September.

JD 12m collected for vehicle licences

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Drivers and Vehicles Licensing Department last year collected JD 12,800,147 in registration fees, department sources said. The sources said that Jordan last year imported 19,934 vehicles, raising the number of vehicles in the country to 196,771. Also 1,012 vehicles of all types have been cancelled from the department's records. The department last year issued 26,801 new driving licences out of 66,852 applicants.

University receives donations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The University of Jordan has received donations totalling JD 10,000 from various sources. A university statement said that the university's special students fund received a donation of JD 950 from Mr. Abdul Majid Shuman, chairman of the board of directors of the Arab Bank. The fund, established 10 years ago offers grants and loans to needy students, especially to those who do well in their studies. Thousands of needy students have benefited from this fund, the statement said.

SSC covers 250,000 employees

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of employees covered by social security reached about 250,000 employees working in 2,000 ministries departments, institutions, companies and firms all over the country, according to a spokesman for the Social Security Corporation (SSC). The spokesman added that the SSC is currently following up the registration of companies and firms which employ 10 or more people.



Minister of Social Development Abdul Salam Kana'an (centre) presides over a meeting of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (Petra photo)

Kana'an praises voluntary societies

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Social Development Abdul Salam Kana'an Thursday presided over a meeting of the general assembly of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), during which a new executive council was elected.

Speaking at the meeting, Mr. Kana'an, chairman of the union's general assembly, paid tribute to the distinguished and continued efforts exerted by the voluntary societies for serving the citizens, stressing that such societies form the backbone of voluntary work in Jordan.

Mr. Kana'an pointed out that voluntary work is a joint responsibility which all sectors of people at their various level share.

Khatib, who said that presence of representatives from both banks of Jordan is a practical interpretation of the eternal unity between the two banks.

Dr. Khatib also said that the continuous and fruitful work carried out by the voluntary societies brings together good citizenship and a sense of true belonging, as the construction and development operations require joint efforts on the part of both public and private sectors.

Dr. Khatib outlined the important role of the voluntary societies in the occupied Arab territories. He said that these societies became responsible for providing health and educational services to the people in the occupied Arab territories in the absence of national authorities responsible for rendering such services.

Council elected

During the meeting a new executive council was elected com-

prising Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib, Dr. Fakhri Bilbeisi and Father Qustantin Qurmush for Amman Governorate, Mr. Jazi Al Majali for Zarqa district, Mr. Muhsin Habbash for Karak district, Mr. Mohammad Obeidat and Mr. Mustafa Shudeifat for Irbid Governorate, Mr. Nasrat Al Bitar for Ma'an Governorate and Anqaba district, Sheikh Mohammad Zeid Al Kilani for Balqa Governorate, Mrs. Alen A'raj and Mrs. Zaidah Al Khatib for Jerusalem Governorate, Mr. Sa'ib Al Nather and Mr. Mohammad Al Shalah Shalaldeh for Hebron Governorate, Mr. Izzat Al Sajadi and Dr. Samih Abdul Jabbar for Nablus Governorate and Jenin district.

The new executive council then held its first meeting and elected Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib as chairman of the executive council, Dr. Fakhri Bilbeisi as Vice-chairman, Mr. Mustafa Shudeifat as secretary and Father Qustantin Qurmush as treasurer.

CVDB loans JD 15m for income generating projects

Bank supports local council development programmes

AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB) Mahdi Al Farhan Friday said that the bank has granted loans worth JD 15,066,088 to various municipal and village councils all over Jordan since the beginning of this year in order to support their various projects and to provide basic services for developing communities.

The bank has also agreed to grant some local councils loans worth JD 4,861,394, Dr. Farhan said.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Dr. Farhan said that the bank contributed JD 1,560,900 towards connecting some villages and towns in Irbid and Amman Governorates to electric power.

The bank also extended credit facilities worth JD 500,000 to the Jordan Electricity Authority to support electrification of the rural areas and JD 200,000 towards appropriation of land for constructing a joint school for ten villages near Qufir Youha crossroads, near Irbid, he said.

Dr. Farhan also said that the bank pledged to provide credit facilities to the Ministry of Education worth JD 500,000 to cover the instalments and interests of school construction loans. The bank will also give a loan of JD 500,000 to help implement water and sewerage projects in Karak, he added.

\$10m loan

Speaking about the visit by a World Bank delegation to a number of projects implemented by

the local councils, Dr. Farhan said that the World Bank gave the CVDB a loan of \$10 million in 1980 to support the bank's resources and its cash liquidity to enable it to finance both general services and income-producing projects.

This amount, added Dr. Farhan, has been allocated to 85 projects for local councils, which were all completed by the end of June 1984. These projects included construction of 42 schools, 20 streets and some 20 income producing projects, Dr. Farhan added.

Asked why the bank hesitates in granting loans to some local councils, Dr. Farhan said that the bank follows a certain policy in granting loans to some municipal and rural councils. He said that each case is dealt with separately and in some cases the bank rejects requests by some councils because of making them liable to pay instalments and interest due on such loans.

This, Dr. Farhan said, applies only to the general services projects such as streets, schools and water. However, the bank has no reservations regarding the income-producing projects because the instalments and interest

due can be covered through the revenues they will yield, and not through the fuel revenues which the cabinet allots every year, he said.

However, Dr. Farhan added, the bank, after coordinating with the authorities concerned, has decided to give local councils short term loans to enable them cover their obligations to the commercial banks, which have now become unauthorised to give local councils any loans except after obtaining the approval of the bank's board of directors.

In 1982 the CVDB granted local councils JD 14,702,000 of which JD 2,595,000 was allocated for village councils. In 1983 such village councils were granted JD 3,844,000 out of JD 11,446,000, he said.

The bank grants loans to the village councils to be settled in 15 years time, while such loans to municipal councils should be settled in 10 years time, Dr. Farhan said.

Interest rates

Discussing interest on loans, Dr. Farhan said the bank's interest on the long term loans to village councils is 6.5 per cent while it is 7.5 per cent for municipal councils. As for short term loans, he said the interest rate is 8.5 per cent for income-producing projects while the interest rate on general services projects is 8 per cent.

Speaking about sources of financing, Dr. Farhan said that the bank will find new sources of finance in addition to the World Bank and the European Investment Bank.

Irbid Municipality takes a tough stand against violators of building regulations

IRBID (J.T.) — Irbid Municipality has decided to demolish houses built in violation of municipal laws and regulations. The municipality's decision was announced at a press conference by Mayor Abdul Razzaq Tubeishat who said that the owners had been warned against these violations and given sufficient time to abide by the municipal laws, but to no avail.

He said the demolishing of the houses was a measure that had to be taken with the purpose of preserving the city's general appearance and because the owners had left no sufficient space separating their homes from those of their neighbours in violation of regulations.

Dr. Tubeishat said that the municipality will not pay any compensation to the owners of these buildings and warned that the municipality would take similar action against other violators in the future.

Asked about possible action

against buildings erected a long time ago in prohibited areas, Dr. Tubeishat said that according to regulations the owners of these buildings will be asked to stop the violations but will have to pay fines if they ignore the warning and he added that the buildings will not be demolished.

The mayor appealed to all citizens to abide by the municipality's regulations when building homes in Irbid in order to avoid any fines or possible demolishing of their homes.

Ajlouni tours health centres

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni has expressed his pleasure over the successful housing experiment that the Ministry of Health has implemented over the few past years.

After a tour of a number of health centres in various parts of Jordan, Dr. Ajlouni said that the ministry has provided doctors and their families living in remote areas with houses and all necessary facilities. He also said that the ministry has granted them incentive increments to encourage them to increase their efforts and to extend health services to people in the various urban, rural and hadia areas around the clock.

Dr. Ajlouni said "if doctors who are currently jobless had filled the vacant posts in the rural and hadia areas, then there would have not been unemployment amongst doctors in Jordan."

Speaking about the ministry's plan to open new health centres and clinics, Dr. Ajlouni said the ministry will open such centres in each city and village provided that all parties concerned, including the citizens, co-operate with the ministry by extending aid and support.

Dr. Ajlouni said that medicines are available in large quantities from the ministry.

Wazir calls on dissidents to join dialogue

(Continued from page 1)

oycott the PNC was prompted by last week's Algiers announcement by Fateh and a left-wing "democratic alliance" to convene the NC in September "even though a comprehensive organisational and political agreement has not been reached yet."

In a telephone interview with the Jordan Times from Damascus, Dr. Samir Ghosheh, general secretary of the Popular Struggle Front, one of the four factions that form the "national alliance," also expressed his view that declaring a late for the PNC is not only a violation of the PLO legislation but would lead to a "dangerous schism" within the PLO if a PNC session was not preceded by a comprehensive organisational agreement among all factions.

A political and organisational agreement between Fateh and the democratic alliance," which groups the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the Palestinian Communist Party and the Palestine Liberation Front, as ratified in Algiers last July, at the "national alliance," which groups the PFLP-General Command, rebels within the Fateh movement and the Syrian-backed alqa group, has so far rejected an agreement which supposedly entails some of the powers enjoyed by Mr. Arafat, enhances a selective leadership of the PLO and voices an outright rejection of American — sponsored peace plans for the Middle East.

"The Aden agreement has some positive points but we do not think it can serve as a good basis for a comprehensive Palestinian dialogue," Dr. Ghosheh said. "The basic problem," which Dr. Ghosheh described as the "deviationist and capitulatory" line led by Mr. Arafat, "was not radically tackled in the Aden agreement."

Dr. Ghosheh accused the "democratic alliance" of "rushing into signing an agreement" with Fateh's Central Committee. "Unfortunately, the democratic alliance has succumbed to blackmail by the Central Committee," he contended.

Dr. Ghosheh was apparently hinting at Fateh's threat last June to quit the talks in Aden if the democratic alliance did not agree to a tentative date for the PNC. "Blackmail" happened to be the same word used in Mr. Wazir's statement to describe the stance of the "national alliance". In his statement, Mr. Wazir warned against any attempt of "blackmail" by the "national alliance" to delay the convening of the PNC.

In Dr. Ghosheh's view, the "democratic alliance" should have reached a common platform with the "national alliance" before "bargaining" with Fateh.

"If both the democratic and national alliances reached an agreement, the democratic alliance would have been able to gain more concessions from Fateh," he said.

According to a document obtained by the Jordan Times dated July 22, the "national alliance" called on the "democratic alliance" and all Palestinian personalities and institutions "to achieve a national consensus to bring down Arafat" and what it called his "capitulatory line".

The document, which is actually a letter sent by the "national alliance" to PNC Chairman Khaled Al Fakhour, implies that the "national alliance" is trying to secure a quorum to convene the various PLO institutions; a move which was interpreted to be an attempt to form a substitute organisation for the PLO.

In the interview with the Jordan Times Dr. Ghosheh confirmed what was said in the document about Mr. Arafat, but when asked if that meant a struggle against the Central Committee of Fateh as well, Dr. Ghosheh said that his alliance has two conditions for opening a dialogue with Fateh.

The first condition is that the Fateh Central Committee should declare a political condemnation of Mr. Arafat's visit to Cairo last December and consequently his political line.

The second condition, Dr. Ghosheh said, is Fateh's acceptance to resolve "the crisis" within Fateh on the basis of reforms as a prelude to the reunification of the movement.

The second condition put by the "national alliance" regarding the crisis within Fateh has been rejected by Fateh from the beginning.

According to Dr. Ghosheh the Fateh crisis should be solved on the basis of a report prepared by

an 18-member committee which emanated from the PLO Central Council last August. The 18-member team which mediated between Mr. Arafat on one hand and Syria and the rebels on the other hand, came out with a plan to effect reforms within Fateh, set up a provisional leadership for the Fateh movement to take charge until a new Fateh general congress is convened where reforms and changes could be discussed and endorsed. The Central Committee, however, saw the plan as an attempt to create a new leadership for Fateh and hence refused it.

In essence, the second condition put by the "national alliance" seems to be an attempt to bring the Fateh Central Committee face to face with demands put up by the Fateh rebels at the beginning of the PLO crisis in May 1983.

Fateh officials in Amman who were contacted by the Jordan Times refused to reply to the charges made by Mr. Ghosheh. "Until now we have shown patience and goodwill, and the concessions we have made to reach the Aden agreement prove our true desire for reform and for the reunification of the PLO," they said.

Palestinian observers in Amman expect that the position of the "national alliance" is heavily contingent on the Syrian stance and on the current Saudi, Algerian, South Yemeni and Soviet efforts to reconcile Fateh and the Syrians before the convening of the PNC.

30 metres above the point where it crosses the Hasbani.

The Israeli newspaper Haaretz said last week that the Israeli water authorities had drawn up a plan to use the pipeline to bring the Hasbani waters across the border.

But the Hasbani flows into Israel anyway, whereas the Litani turns west and runs into the Mediterranean.

The Haaretz story, denied by Israeli officials, coincided with an official Lebanese security report from the south that Israeli engineers were digging a tunnel between the Litani and the Israeli-Lebanese border.

WAJ builds water towers

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) is building water towers in several regions of Amman to ensure that the capital will have continuous supplies of water 24 hours a day.

This was announced by WAJ Director General Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani who said that the local firm Enca is building the water towers on selected high sites overlooking the city. Mr. Keilani said that work will be completed by the middle of the coming year.

Three of these water towers will be 30 metres high and will each have 450,000 cubic metre capacity, Mr. Keilani said. The regions where these towers are being built are Um Uthaina, Marka, Sports City district, Ashrafieh, Nuzha, Nazzal, Ain Ghazal, Khaw and Azraq.

U. of J. graduates 17,650 students since establishment

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of graduates from the University of Jordan since its establishment in 1962 until the summer semester of 1983 reached 17,650 students (male and female) of which 15,262 are holders of B.A. degrees, 1,896 are holders of diplomas and 492 are holders of M.A. degrees.

The number of graduates from the various faculties is as follows: Faculty of Arts 4,864, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences 4,158, Faculty of Science 2,281, Faculty of Shari'a (Islamic Law) 1,391, Faculty of Education 1,045, Faculty of Medicine 342, Faculty of Nursing 194, Faculty of Agriculture 398, Faculty of Engineering 413, Faculty of Law 136, and Faculty of physical education 48 graduates.

Industrial firms tour Irbid to publicise products

AMMAN (J.T.) — Vehicles carrying placards representing the various industrial companies participating in the First Jordanian Industrial Festival Friday toured the streets of Irbid to publicise local industry and to encourage consumers to buy local products.

Poor people to benefit from JD 15m urban development housing project

AMMAN (J.T.) — Housing units being built within an urban development programme by the Amman Municipality will be distributed to beneficiaries by the end of this year, according to Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh.

He said that the municipality's second programme involves building 5,000 units for those people whose homes will be demolished in the course of opening streets, and these units will be supplied with basic services such as water, electricity and sewerage systems as well as a community centre and a vocational training unit.

Most of the people who will move to the new areas are poor and presently live in old buildings which have no basic services, Mr.

Rawabdeh said. He said that the project, which has just started, will cost JD 15 million, half of which will be covered by the treasury and the rest by loans from the World Bank and lending institutions.

The new housing units will be located at Maanara, Quesmeb, Marka and Russefeh and will be ready by the end of 1985, he said.

According to Mr. Rawabdeh, the municipality will embark on second stage of an urban development programme after a feasibility study, now being conducted through the World Bank, has been completed.

The study will define the sites where the housing units will be set up, the specifications of the buildings and the types of services the new scheme requires, he said. The

second stage of the programme, Mr. Rawabdeh said, is expected to cost JD 40 million.

Youth centres

Meanwhile, Amman Municipal Council has announced its decision to build eight youth centres in Amman. A statement said that the building of these centres is in response to a request by Minister of Culture and Youth Abdullah Owaidat which called on various institutions and companies to build youth and sports centres in more than 59 Jordanian towns and villages.

The projected centres will be run by the Ministry of Culture and Youth in cooperation with the municipality, the announcement said.

Agriculture Ministry, WAJ cooperate in JD 3.8m wheat pilot project

AMMAN (J.T.) — A pilot project to produce wheat and fodder will be implemented over a 14,000-dunum area east of Qaa' Al Disi in southern Jordan, according to Agriculture Minister Mohammad Al Bashir.

Speaking in an interview with Jordan Television Thursday evening the minister said that work on the project, which is estimated to yield 7,000 tonnes of wheat and

5,000 tonnes of animal feed a year, will begin in the coming two months.

In a related interview with the Arabic daily Sawt Al Shaah, Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) Director General Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani said that 10 arresian wells will be drilled at the project site to supply water for the crops.

If the project proves successful,

other similar projects will be carried out in Jordan depending on the nature of soil and the existence of underground water, Mr. Keilani said.

The government has allocated JD3.8 million for the project which entails establishing farms for raising sheep in a bid to achieve food security for Jordan, Mr. Keilani said.

Jerash Festival successful due to better organisation, Armouti says

JERASH (J.T.) — The Third Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts this year is a great success reaching beyond the organisers' expectations and will encourage Jordan to continue with displaying cultural events in the coming years, according to Dr. Mazen Armouti, the festival's director.

In an interview with Monte Carlo radio, Dr. Armouti said that the festival aims to highlight Jordan's bright image and its cultural activities over the years as well as building bridges of understanding among various nations by including their cultures in the festival's activities.

He said that the best proof of the success of the festival is the great number of visitors who attended the programmes every evening.

The success of the festival is due to good organisation and planning by the supervising committee which benefitted from previous experiences and those of other Arab and foreign countries holding similar events, Dr. Armouti said.

This year the festival did not present "stars," major figures of culture and art in the Arab World with the intention of avoiding the congestion experienced during last year's festival, Dr. Armouti added.

He said that this year's festival of artistic and cultural activities was designed to present a variety which included special folklore.



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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday

Al Ra'i: Reagan's double standards

IT SEEMS that the emphasis by U.S. President Ronald Reagan that morals should not be separated from politics is aimed at reaching those Americans who began to feel ashamed of their successive administrations and deceiving them through religious and moral slogans with an ultimate goal of gaining their votes in the forthcoming elections.

If it were only that, we would view this issue as a pure internal issue, which the American people can decide upon, but the American administration's policies, which actually slaughter values and principles, prompt us to discuss the sincerity of the American president, with whom we have had no shallow experiences. To us the real crisis of the United States lies in its values and principles, before anything else.

People have all the right to self-determination and to political choices, but the United States, and particularly the present administration of Mr. Reagan, denies other people such a right.

Not only did it deny people this right but it also deny them the right to live on their national soil, and sovereignty on their own soil. During the presidency of Mr. Reagan, who calls for no separation of politics from morals, Lebanon was invaded, shelled and destroyed by U.S. made planes and the U.S. fleet.

During his time also, the Zionist enemy mounted its colonial drive, which is financed by the U.S. treasury, in the occupied Arab territories. In President Reagan's time, America has supplied Iran with American weapons to prolong the war in the Gulf area. It also laid siege on Argentina, Poland and Nicaragua.

Our experience with President Reagan is full of bitterness. We truly wish that there will be no separation between politics and morals by the new U.S. administration, irrespective of whoever will head it.

Sawt Al Shaab: Inter-Arab conciliation imperative

AS THE Arab League Council's meeting in preparation for the forthcoming Arab Summit Conference is nearing, efforts for preparing the summit have become necessary to outline an agenda which will probably be the biggest in the Arab Nation's history.

Before discussing the possibilities of holding such a conference or postponing it, or whether it will be a success or otherwise, a number of questions about the conference should be answered, particularly in the light of the deteriorating Arab situation and the deep differences between Arab states.

The summit requires a positive atmosphere to dominate Arab relations and open new avenues for brotherly and constructive dialogue between the governments and peoples of the Arab World. The Arab summit also requires real Arab solidarity, capable of facing all challenges and dangers threatening the Arab World.

We in Jordan support any real move to repair relations among Arabs and to bypass the red lines of sensitive bilateral issues in Arab relations and in their dealing with each other. The Palestinian question has exceeded the red line in the light of what Israel is exercising in the occupied Palestinian land and in the light of inter-Palestinian divisions.

The Gulf war is entering its fifth year without a unified Arab stand capable of defending Iraqi land and the Arab land in the Gulf. On the contrary the region of war and danger is being expanding to engulf the whole Gulf and Red Sea areas, thus opening Arab waters for foreign fleets and consequently opening the doors for a new era of polarisation and hegemony over Arab resources.

In Lebanon, which represents the mirror that reflects the deteriorating Arab situation, the wound is getting bigger day after day, and factional disputes are taking deep roots for partitioning the country and threaten the unity of the land and people.

With this situation in mind, Arabs should exert sincere and serious efforts to heal their rifts and to overcome this grave stage and speed up the holding of the long-awaited Arab summit.

Thursday

Al Ra'i: South heroes need backing

BLIND AND indiscriminate fighting now going on in Tripoli has caused the death of hundreds of innocent people. There is no reason for the continuation of this fratricidal war which can never help the cause of Lebanese unity. It is a continuous act of suicide which can benefit the enemy that has been occupying southern Lebanon and consolidating its hold over the land and people there. We have always called on the Lebanese to unify their efforts and join hands to fight the common enemy and rid southern Lebanon from Israeli occupation. This should be their work and their concern not inter-factional wars that ruin Lebanon and destroy its unity and its people.

The soil of southern Lebanon now awaits the Lebanese fighters and calls for the battle of liberation. Those now fighting the Israelis in southern Lebanon are a handful of heroes who cannot hold on for too long unless they are supported by their brethren. It is true they are making successes and inflicting losses on the Israelis but their power is limited and sooner or later they will have to need help. If the Lebanese people in the North are preoccupied with their small wars to please their warlords or agents of foreign powers, then there is little chance indeed for the South to be liberated and there is little chance for peace in the whole of Lebanon.

Al Dustour: Stop north Lebanon fighting

THE CURRENT fighting in Tripoli bears the seeds of a new civil war in Lebanon and threatens the position of the Beirut government, which so far has failed to bring an end to the hostilities between the warring factions. The continuous bleeding serves the interests of the Israeli enemy who has been consolidating his positions in southern Lebanon making good use of time and the preoccupation of the Lebanese and Syrian governments with the situation in the North.

The factional fighting in Tripoli is unacceptable and unjustifiable and is bound to undermine President Gemayel's security plan which is being implemented step by step in the country. It is to be noted that the outbreak of fighting in Tripoli coincides with an escalation of Israeli repressive measures against the population of South Lebanon and work on a tunnel to steal away the Litani River water.

The fighting in Tripoli helps the Israelis to consolidate their hold in the South and perpetuate their occupation of that territory.

Sawt Al Shaab: Sorrowful fighting

THE BLOODY clashes between two Muslim communities in the Lebanese town of Tripoli is gradually taking on the proportion of a civil war, engulfing the whole city. The fighting which resulted in the death of hundreds of people threatens the whole of Lebanon with a new internal strife that would lead nowhere but would definitely please the enemies of the Arab Nation. The factional fighting in Tripoli represents rivalry between warlords and lust for power and influence that can never be in the interest of the country.

The Syrians, who have stationed thousands of troops in Lebanon for the past years, have a responsibility to put an end to the fighting in cooperation with the Lebanese government. They must find a way of stopping clashes because they have influence on at least one of the combatants, and must realise that the Israelis are gloating over the spilling of Arab blood and the displacement of thousands of innocent civilians. The Syrians must find a way of bringing back peace to Tripoli to help bring about unity among the Lebanese and concentrate efforts for liberating southern Lebanon.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

A new cycle of U.S. economic recovery?

SAN FRANCISCO — The latest stock market gyrations in the U.S. have produced another surprise. Suddenly, after months of sluggishness, stocks have soared upwards. Business analysts are talking about a repeat of the turning-point month of August 1982. Then stocks also suddenly turned upwards and that was a sign that the current American economic recovery would soon begin (it did early in 1983).

The turnaround does involve a Middle Eastern factor. During much of this year, business analysts had been predicting inflationary pressures. Thus bond prices began to go up. A good deal of this pressure came from the fear that oil prices would start climbing again. And the chief reason for that was the Iran-Iraq war. Even though the Gulf's share in world oil consumption has declined significantly, the oil picture in the region still sets the tone and the price for oil everywhere else in the world.

But then, during July, items began to appear in the business press indicating that experts now believed that not inflation but deflation could be what the advanced industrial countries would face during the coming year. Deflation would mean more than falling prices. It would lead to lower interest rates and a cooling down of the booming American economy. In earlier times, the stock market would have liked a booming economy. Now it would prefer a lukewarm economy with low interest rates.

The growing talk about deflation pleased many brokers and quietly some began to buy stocks, just enough to keep the market interested. Then other news began to make brokers even more interested in stocks. The growing signs that the Iran-Iraq war was cooling down began to generate hope that maybe this super-dangerous war could end. And then in the first days of August, word began to pass around that, maybe, the U.S. government finally would move to put a ceiling on the deficit. A conservative senator leaked the news that in the end the Reagan Administration and Congress would limit defence budget increases to 5 per cent. For over a year, just about every corporate executive and business economist had virtually screamed that capping

the deficit was urgent to prevent a collapse of the American economy. Here was the first sign that the Reagan Administration was really prepared to make a move. The Reagan people did not have much of a choice. If we are indeed facing deflation then there is no way the hot sun of inflation will melt down the debt. Instead the cold moon of deflation will shine on a solidly frozen mountain of debt that will eventually crush the world economy.

So the stock market suddenly reacted like a child given a fist-full of money in a toy shop. But, assuming all this is not just a giant illusion, what does this mean for the months ahead? Two scenarios are conceivable. The first arises from the illusion possibility. That could mean deflation turns into a second Reagan recession next year. That possibility was laid out by Malaysia's retiring finance minister Tunku Razaleigh Hamzah. The other arises from the reality possibility. If the market, as in August 1982, turns out to correctly interpret real economic trends, then we could see an American economy with moderate growth, a dollar somewhat but not too much lower in price, and an improvement in global trade. And such a scenario would also mean better recovery prospects in other economies.

It takes pro-Arab sentiments to invite FBI harassment

By Michael R. Fischbach

FOR IBRAHIM Odeh, the deportation order delivered to him in August 1982 looked all too familiar. Mr. Odeh, a Palestinian living in the U.S. since 1970, had previously been served such a "bag and baggage" letter a few years after his arrival, but had successfully fought it because of his marriage to a U.S. citizen. Mr. Odeh's lawyer, James Fennerty, quickly filed for a stay of deportation on Aug. 13 1982. Curiously, the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) informed him that Mr. Odeh's file had been "lost". A similar response was given when Mr. Odeh's second American wife, Camille Brown, twice filed 1-130 forms requesting that permanent residency status be granted to her

husband. In January this year, the INS notified Mr. Odeh that his file had been located and that this 1-130 form had been approved, thereby qualifying him for permanent residence pending a final hearing. Before the hearing could take place Mr. Odeh was suddenly served a second deportation letter and arrested. Released on bond on March 30, he managed to obtain a stay of deportation from a judge after the INS refused to delay his expulsion. His case is still pending.

On the surface, Mr. Odeh's case seemed like a routine battle against INS bungling and technicalities. However, attorney Fennerty soon determined that the real reasons for Mr. Odeh's difficulties with the U.S. authorities were political. He discovered that the file had not been lost as reported but had been placed in the INS' "classified section". Furthermore, he found that a large percentage of the file consisted of material unrelated to visa matters but which dealt with Mr. Odeh's political activities in Chicago, material submitted to the INS by the FBI. To be sure, Mr. Odeh was active in Palestinian nationalist circles, but political association and expression are not crimes in the U.S., and the law forbids the expulsion of foreign residents unless a crime has been committed.

The government's obvious attempts to deport Mr. Odeh on political grounds came as no surprise to Mr. Fennerty, who had previously defended Ziad Abu Ain, the young Palestinian extradited to Israel in 1982 after a lengthy and celebrated court battle. Indeed, the various branches of the U.S. government take a dim view of politically active Arabs in the U.S. "If he wasn't Palestinian and wasn't political," Mr. Fennerty maintained, "they would have used their discretion (to approve his applications)". Mr. Fennerty, along with other defence lawyers and Arab-American groups, struggles against the government's policy of ridding the U.S. of Arabs who are visible in political circles. One such group, the Washington-based American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), is attempting to determine whether or not the service has a policy whereby visa applications bearing Arab names are set aside for "special" handling, as well as under what circumstances the INS places such applications in

its classified section.

The government's campaign against Arabs began in 1967 and increased dramatically when President Richard Nixon commissioned "Operation Boulder" shortly after the 1972 Munich Olympics. Its purpose was to determine the nature and scope of Arab nationalist sentiment and activity within the U.S. and to uncover any links which may have existed with the PLO. Boulder employed a variety of federal agencies, including the INS, FBI, CIA, customs and the State Department, in a coordinated attack on resident Arabs. Although the operation has officially ended, the policy of surveillance and harassment of Arabs continues in a variety of ways.

Bureaucratic technicalities, like those faced by Ibrahim Odeh, remain among the more common forms of intimidation. Often, the fault technically lies with the victims. For instance, students must file an I-538 form with the INS when they transfer to another college or university. Students' ignorance of such regulations is used against them should they be targeted by the government. Often, however, the authorities give no official reason at all for their interference. Mahmoud Najj, a Palestinian travel agent in Chicago, has lived in the U.S. for 19 years. Even though he was brought here in 1965 from the Dominican Republic by the government itself (the U.S. evacuated all foreigners in that country when it invaded it), he has consistently been denied a "green card", of permanent residence despite the fact that he, too, is married to an American citizen and therefore qualifies for permanent residency status. He currently has no legal status in the U.S. and like the others can trace his troubles to his involvement in

the activities of the Palestinian community. Frequently the FBI will question Arabs seeking adjustment of their visas about their participation in various demonstrations, giving the date and place where the person was seen. Such information ends up in their

The campaign of intimidation against politically active Arabs is not likely to recede.

files even though such political activity is entirely within the law.

The methods employed frequently seem from the realm of James Bond. Early morning visits by the FBI are common, as is the questioning of a suspect's family, friends, landlords, and others who might be able to provide information. In some southern states, INS officers have actually been known to seize students in the middle of a class and detain them for failing to file the proper forms subsequent to changing universities. The government often uses informants in its investigations, particularly when it is seeking a demographic picture of a given Arab community, its leaders and activities. It is suspected that Ibrahim Odeh's troubles are the result of information passed on by such a "mole". So widespread is FBI interference with Arabs that a noted defence attorney, Abdeen Jabara, has issued a pamphlet entitled, "You, Your Rights, and the FBI". Printed in English and Arabic, it outlines a resident's rights as well as the legal bounds within which the FBI must operate. Although an American citizen, Mr. Jabara is himself no stranger to governmental harassment. Hounded by the FBI from 1967 to 1975, he finally won a lawsuit against the government which ended his ordeal. Other

U.S. citizens who are sympathetic to Arab concerns or even interested in the region find themselves investigated by the government. An ADC staff member told of one woman who had attended an ADC meeting and later received a call from the FBI inquiring why she had gone, what was said, and other political questions. She found out in the course of her dealings with the bureau that she had been traced through her car's license plate numbers which had been noted outside the meeting. In another instance, a simple traveller to the West Bank became the subject of an investigation. While the tourist, Roger Cook, was in the occupied territories, he met an American woman who possessed some photos of Palestinian refugee camps. After their separate returns to the U.S., the woman called Cook to discuss the possibility of his assisting her in publishing the photos. Although he did not personally speak with her, and never did meet with the woman, the FBI called him several months later asking what he had discussed with her.

An interesting side note to these difficulties has been the cooperation between the government and various Zionist groups. During Mr. Jabara's long legal battle, for instance, both the FBI and the Justice Department conceded that information about him had been obtained from domestic Zionist organisations and disseminated to 17 federal agencies as well as three foreign governments. Similarly, a Palestinian now working with the Palestine Research and Educational Centre in Washington commented that when he was able to view his FBI file after invoking the "Freedom of Information Act", he found that it contained memoranda written on the stationery of a leading U.S. Zionist

organisation, providing the bureau with details of his whereabouts on given dates. Perhaps the most notorious example of collusion occurred during the incarceration of Sami Esmail. Mr. Esmail, a young native-born U.S. citizen of Palestinian descent, was arrested by the Israeli authorities during a visit there in 1977 and charged with membership of the PFLP. According to Israeli lawyer Felicia Langer and others, the FBI forwarded data on Mr. Esmail to Israel for use in his prosecution. Ms. Langer also bitterly recalled the lack of cooperation she received from the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv during her attempts to free Mr. Esmail.

Mr. Jabara, Mr. Fennerty, and other civil rights-minded attorneys have joined with organisations like ADC and the Palestine Human Rights Campaign to protect the rights of Arabs in the U.S. ADC receives hundreds of calls annually from Arabs facing harassment, many of whom suffer from non-governmental forms of discrimination as well. With Congress currently considering far-reaching "anti-terrorist" legislation, the caseload is likely to increase. But perhaps what worries such groups the most are the implications for all American citizens and residents. Such laws, if passed, could potentially make any member of an Arab-American group or any curious American liable for acts which the government could construe as aiding or abetting a "terrorist" organisation. Regrettably, as increasing U.S. involvement in the Middle East exposes Americans to ever greater terrorist threats abroad, the campaign of intimidation against politically active Arabs at home is not likely to recede — Middle East International, London.



Worldwide movement thrives despite Vatican campaign

By Kevin Costelloe
 Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II has mobilised his hierarchy against liberation theology and theologians who've adopted Marxist theories in their struggle to help the poor in the "Third World."

Waged partially in public, the theological struggle pits the Vatican's traditionalists against Roman Catholic Church liberals.

One leading proponent of the movement, known as liberation theology, the Rev. Leonardo Boff of Brazil, will defend his teachings at the Vatican next month.

Liberation theology, since its birth two decades ago, has become a loosely used term, describing, for example, highly theoretical studies, clerics' left-wing politics and even the activities of gun-toting priests.

Among the most publicised figures was The Rev. Camillo Torres, 37-year-old Colombian priest who joined guerrillas and died in a shootout with the army in February 1966. He quickly became a type of "martyr" for the Latin American left.

Some priests inspired by the principles of liberation theology have been helping to organise fishermen in southern India, while others are using the principles as a

basis for opposing apartheid in South Africa.

Liberation theology first spread throughout Latin America in the 1960s. Both detractors and supporters say the movements grouped under the heading "liberation theology" continue to grow despite the pontifical campaign, which many trace back to a hard-hitting speech the Pope delivered at a Latin American bishops conference in 1979.

The Vatican publicly hails some parts of liberation theology — such as its concern for the poor. But it shudders at what it sees as a Marxist tinge among some of the branches, noting Marxism is an atheistic doctrine and objecting to the idea of a "class struggle" mixed with the Gospel.

"Whom are they going to worship — the great god Marx or the great god class?" asks an aide to West German Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the head of the Vatican's watchdog body on doctrine.

The aide, asking not to be identified by name, said the objectionable parts of the movement put into question the "unity of the Church."

"You could suggest the possibility of a break-up" that would lead to the formation of separate churches in various countries, says the aide.

So far, though, liberation theology, including the Marxist-

based branches, is reising the Vatican's campaign.

Cardinal Ratzinger, prefect of the congregation for the doctrine of the faith, says the Marxist branch of the movement poses a "fundamental danger for the faith of the Church." His congregation is in charge of rooting out doctrinal deviations that could lead to heresy.

The West German prelate has been working in conjunction with the Pope and local bishops in the coordinated Vatican effort to quell the Marxist branch of the movement.

"The problem of what can and must be done in the face of it (Marxist-based liberation theology) is becoming even more urgent," Cardinal Ratzinger wrote in a journal of religious affairs last March, saying liberation theology also had spread to such places as Sri Lanka and Taiwan.

He spoke to Latin American prelates about the issue during a meeting of bishops in Bogota, Colombia, also in March.

Liberation theologians and their supporters, on the other hand, are quick to deny their movement is dominated by Marxism, although a majority acknowledge Marxism has a role to play in examining "Third World" problems, according to a key expert in the field.

"They aren't any liberation

theologians who would buy lock, stock and barrel all of Marxism," says The Rev. John A. Coleman of the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California.

"A majority of liberation theologians would take from him (Marx) some elements of social analysis," said Rev. Coleman, a strong supporter of liberation theology. He spoke with the Associated Press from Cochabamba, Bolivia, where he is holding conferences for foreign missionaries in Latin America.

Rev. Coleman is a member of Concilium, a worldwide group of 330 liberal scholars who in June issued a public statement staunchly defending principles of liberation theology.

"We have seen people defamed, forbidden to teach theology, rendered suspect of infidelity to the Christian message and accused of substituting ideologies for the Gospel, under the influence of Marxism," the statement said. "Against such procedures we register a strong and vigorous protest."

Concilium includes several well-known European theologians, including Swiss-born Rev. Hans Kueng, who was stripped of professorship of Catholic theology by the Vatican because of his unconventional views.

The principles of the teaching have taken hold among South African

priests opposed to apartheid, that nation's racial-separation policies. The Church there has firmly committed itself to using the Gospel to work for black rights.

"Over the past several years, there has been a growing awareness that social justice is an essential part of the Gospel," says Sister Brigid Flanagan, associate general secretary of the Bishops' Conference in South Africa.

The South African Roman Catholic Church has grown from about 1.6 million in 1975 to about 2.5 million now in a nation of 30 million. Most of the growth has come among the blacks, who make up about 80 per cent of the membership.

The Rev. Joe McMahon, an Irish priest who teaches theology at a Pretoria seminary, says "the fact that the Church has sided with the underprivileged, means they (seminary candidates) see the Church as an ally."

Speaking specifically of liberation theology, he says "certainly some of the ideas have been influential" in South Africa, while noting that the Marxist analysis has not been strongly felt.

In India, religious leaders say they estimate that liberation theology is supported by about five per cent of the Christian population of 14 million.

The Rev. Thomas Kochery, a Roman Catholic priest, has been

working with poor, traditional fishermen against mechanised trawlers with large nets that reap rich marine harvests in southern Kerala state.

"I may stand for leftist ideology, but that does not mean I am an atheist," Rev. Kochery was quoted as saying in a magazine interview about last June's agitation on behalf of the traditional fishermen.

"The priests and nuns who are with me are not only religious but also duty-bound to these poor fishermen," Father Kochery added.

The agitation turned violent, with mine mechanised fishing boats set ablaze.

In Brazil, the conservative wing of the Church complains of "Marxist infiltration," but this has had little effect on curbing clerical progressives who support peasants and urban poor against landowners.

While mobilising his hierarchy against the Marxist principles, John Paul has taken an active role.

During a meeting with Latin American bishops in Puebla, Mexico, the pontiff fired the opening salvo on Jan. 28, 1979. He noted that some people "purport to depict Jesus as a political activist, as a fighter against Roman domination and the authorities, and even as someone involved in the class struggle."

Do we respect ourselves as human beings?

Talking straight
Marwan Muasher

AN INTERESTING case is developing in Australia these days. In 1981, Elsa Rios, unable to conceive children, entered a clinic in Melbourne, where physicians took three

ovums from her, fertilised them with an anonymous donor's sperm, put two in cold storage, and implanted the third back inside her. The pregnancy ended in a miscarriage, and Mrs. Rios did not return to that clinic. The two embryos, however, remained frozen. If forgotten, in that Australian clinic, Elsa Rios died in a plane crash last year, and when the presence of the two embryos was known, all kinds of legal questions were raised. Should the embryos be thawed and thus perish, or do they have legal rights for life and inheritance, in which case they should be allowed the chance to be implanted in another womb? The main question developing in this dilemma is this: At what point in time, after conception, does an unborn possess legal rights?

hold to us? Indeed, one's first reaction, reading about such stories, is that some people just carry things too far, that there are much more important and more basic issues to be debated and solved than worry about pseudo-academic situations such as the one above.

My interest in the story, though, is from a somewhat different angle. I am not particularly concerned, even though I perhaps should be, with whether or not the embryos have a right to live. I believe in this regard that there are equally convincing arguments on each side, and I really have not formed a firm opinion on the matter. What I admire, though, is the very fact that there is a debate about the matter. Someone did not just reach into that freezer and throw those two embryos in the trash basket once the mother died and nobody claimed the two "entities". That would have been the easy way out.

Instead, someone thought of some human, or legal if you like, rights that these two tiny creatures might just have.

The ongoing debates about the rights of two unborns whose mother is dead, and who might not survive thawing anyway, points to a most important fact other than what many of us might hastily dismiss as a far-out reaction of a crazy society. It simply shows that human value is so highly thought of in some societies, and so deeply respected that human rights are even debated for embryos which society itself is not sure can be considered alive. That some societies go that far in deciding upon human rights is an admirable and healthy sign. It is an attitude that is far from being labelled as silly or hogged down in academic issues, for it shows that society cares about its most important elements, human beings and human rights.

towards examining the value we place upon individuals in our society might seem forced or at least awkward. I do not believe so. For the most important factor in the progress of any nation is, to me, the degree of respect that nation places on its citizens and on human rights at least within its boundaries. In the end, this is the determining factor of a nation's strength and perseverance, lasting much longer than any roads, hospitals, or other signs of economic developments that nation has a claim on.

It has been too often pointed out that, given our present inferiority in military strength to Israel, a scenario could develop where, in a war with Israel, all our economic achievements could be levelled down in a matter of days. How much of this is true, I do not know. But I would like to believe that if it is true, that there will be something left for this nation after such a catastrophe. I would like

to believe that there is a basic faith in our value as human beings, faith that would last beyond any physical setbacks we might face. I would like to believe that throughout our much self-bailed history, we have built some lasting foundations about respect for our fellow citizen as well as our fellow human being, foundations other than some nice architectural designs, memories of great conquerors, or even achievements in science and literature.

It is obvious that I do not look very optimistically on our achievements in this regard. Contrary to what our newspapers, public, or officials say, I do not sense the signs of whatever true character we possess as Arabs or human beings. We have existed as a nation of Arabs for a long time, during which some great achievements were made by us. However, I, as an Arab, unfortunately cannot claim that during our long history we have

evolved socially to a point where a value-system placing emphasis on individual human rights was developed. It seems that we have traditionally placed more emphasis on economic security and the like, ignoring in the process the human factor that forms the very core of any society. Thus, we really cannot claim today to care for human rights when we discriminate among ourselves. We cannot claim to stand for justice when we are unwilling to even have a proper, representative, legislative body. We cannot claim to be objective when we continue to hide or omit part of the truth, including our own past and modern history. Are these shortcomings really the product of 400 years of Ottoman rule, or a much longer history during which we also existed but ignored developing this sense of respect for each other as human beings?

I believe we should have a major re-assessment of our

goals and priorities. Even the Arab-Israeli conflict will end one day. But the one thing that will always remain with any society is the attitude, education, and degree of awareness of human value of its people. That has been, and always will be, the driving force behind the progress or stagnation of any society.

The case of the frozen embryos is not one of a crummy debate over academic details. It points to a whole attitude dealing with the very issue of human value in society. It highlights a value-system that holds human beings in high esteem, and the kind of society such a concept results in.

We might not see a debate about frozen embryos developing in the foreseeable future in our society, but I hope we will have the vision to realise it will take much more than money, imported technology, or nice roads before this nation can ever hope to stand on its feet.

Grand Canyon fossils yield to man's zeal

By Boris Weintraub

GRAND CANYON, Ariz.—The same thing that made the fossils so hard for the scientists to find is what protected them for 12,000 years: they are so inaccessible to man as well as to any other large mammals.

The fossils are in a series of caves along the majestic sheer Redwall limestone cliffs near the bottom of the Grand Canyon, down where the raging Colorado River did its work over millions of years, tearing the land apart and leaving it unreachable by man or beast.

But the Colorado did not reckon with modern mountain-climbing equipment, or with contemporary camping gear, or with the zeal of scientists out to answer questions they consider important.

So this year, for the first time, a handful of men and one woman scaled the cliffs and entered about 15 of those caves. They found the skulls, bones, even feathers of condors that may have used the caves as nesting and roosting sites in Pleistocene times.

Cross-country team

Heading the scientific team was Steve Emslie, 30, a graduate student at the University of Florida with an interest in fossil birds. With him were Jim Mead, 32, an assistant professor at the University of Maine and a veteran of studying fossil remains in the Grand Canyon, and Mead's wife, Emilee, 26, a scientific photographer and illustrator.

With the aid of climbers Larry Coats and Dave Dawson, they spent 35 days floating down the Colorado, climbing cliffs, photographing and mapping caves, and collecting specimens from the surface and beneath it.

The trip had its origins in a visit by Mr. Emslie to the Grand Canyon in 1983, in the company of scientist friends.

"I noticed a lot of caves on the vertical cliffs, and thought they would be good for fossil birds," Mr. Emslie recalls. "The cliff walls

are limestone, and limestone is good for cave formation. The caves were large enough and deep enough to make them attractive for nesting or roosting without large animals entering and disturbing nests. And California condors are known to use caves to nest in."

Mr. Emslie received permission from the National Park Service to do a preliminary study of the cave. With the aid of climbers Coats and Dawson, he spent 21 days in the area, entering several caves and finding fossil remains of condors, mountain goats, and other animals on the surface.

Encouraging start

Encouraged, he designed a lengthy research project for this summer, enlisted the aid of the Meads, and applied for and received financial support from the National Geographic Society. The team used four boats, each piloted by a Colorado River boatman, and had the help of other support personnel.

Mr. Emslie hoped to answer the question of whether a condor that has been assigned by scientists to a species of its own and that has been assumed to be extinct was instead a California condor subspecies.

The fossils he found should help answer the question if, as he expects, they are dated to the late Pleistocene. The key find, "a beautiful specimen" found in a cave the team named after its discoverer, Larry Stevens, is a complete condor skull so well-preserved that skin remains attached to it.

"It's got all of the beak intact, and some of the small bones underneath in the palate area," Mr. Emslie says enthusiastically.

Mr. Emslie has compared his find with condor skulls found at the Rancho La Brea in Los Angeles, but is so far unable to provide a definitive answer to the question of whether it was a separate, now extinct species. He has some notions about what happened, however.

"My idea is that this bird did



Wearing respirators to protect them from the dust and headlamps to provide light, climbers Dave Dawson (left) and Larry Coats sort through material dug from the floor of a Grand Canyon cave in a search for the remains of condors. Dawson and

Coats took part in an expedition that required boating, backpacking, and climbing skills to help answer questions about what life was like in the Grand Canyon 12,000 years ago (National Geographic photo)

become extinct everywhere in the inland states at the close of the Pleistocene, when most large mammals died out," he says.

"But I think it was able to survive by having a subspecies that lived along the coast of California and Oregon, that fed on coastal carcasses and, therefore, wasn't quite as affected as inland birds were by the extinctions of large mammals. They depended on a different food source, and survived the extinctions."

Other new answers

If the species problem is settled by the skull found in Stevens Cave, a host of other questions may be answered by the condor remains found in another cave, dubbed Sand Blast Cave.

In this cave, one of four in which the team did extensive excavation instead of simple collecting what was found on the surface, the scientists dug up the remains of at least five condors.

Some of the wing and leg bones were still connected, indicating that the birds died in the cave. Nearby, Mr. Emslie and the

Meads found large feather fragments and thick pieces of eggshell.

"I think this was a Pleistocene nesting cave for condors, probably the first that's ever been excavated or recorded for its fossils," Mr. Emslie says. "Condor bones have been found in caves before, but never has there been a site with feathers and eggshell fragments."

The team also found bones of large mammals in Sand Blast Cave, perhaps the remains of food the condors scavenged from carcasses outside and brought into the cave.

For Jim Mead, whose doctoral dissertation dealt with an extinct species of mountain goat known only in the Grand Canyon, the caves invariably produced bones and skulls of the goat, enabling him to collect several new specimens and considerable new evidence about the behaviour of the extinct goat.

For both Mr. Emslie and the Meads, the physical difficulties of the expedition, including climbs of 150 feet up sheer cliffs, were worth living through, given the scientific results.

Hard, long days

"Some of the caves were really hard to get into," Mr. Emslie admits. "We had to backpack quite a way up to get above the sharp Redwall, then climb down or across ledges to get into the caves. So we had to carry all the climbing equipment, plus food and camping gear and Mr. Emslie's cameras. Just to get up there in order to be ready to go."

"Once we got up to the cave site, it would take a couple of hours to get into the cave, set up the ropes, get our secure and protect us from falling."

Several times, Mr. Emslie acknowledges, Mr. Coats managed to find a way to reach caves he thought unreachable; one such climb took Mr. Coats six hours. Once the climbers reached a cave, they would lower ropes to assist the scientists.

After the expedition, Mr. Emslie made a helicopter trip over other parts of the canyon, seeing additional cave sites.

"I'm convinced that's the only way to go now," he says wryly. — National Geographic

London art auction houses make big money selling to Americans

U.S. economic expansion has put more cash in the hands of those who traditionally buy art and antiques, contributing to the soaring fortunes of London's legendary auction houses, Sotheby's and Christie's. Anthony Thornicroft reports.

LONDON — Sotheby's and Christie's auction houses, which both announced record turnover figures for the 1983-84 sale season recently, know what to thank for the current boom in works of art — the American economy. The business expansion in the U.S. has enriched many people, and traditionally the wealthy buy antiques, partly as an investment, partly to parade their affluence, and partly because they just like collecting.

An American-led buying spree is particularly good news for the salerooms because, unlike the rich Japanese or the wealthy Arabs, the Americans collect in all the markets for works of art: there is scarcely a sector which did not enjoy a better year.

In addition, both Sotheby's and Christie's have invested heavily in building up their New York salerooms in the past decade. Their turnover in that city now exceeds that in London. Christie's New York sales in 1983-84 totalled \$158 million (\$207 million) out of a turnover of \$350.6 million, and for the first time was greater than London, which managed sales of \$134.3 million at the main King Street auction house and \$22.9 million at the South Kensington saleroom, which specialises in the lower end of the market. All told, Christie's world-wide sales rose by 53 per cent in the season, which has officially just ended.

Sotheby's, which was bought last year by the American Mr. A. Alfred Taubman, does not release the split between London and New York, but its total turnover of \$401 million represented a 47 per cent gain. At least some of this can be attributed to the new management, which has brought wealth and certainty to a company that had been going through a difficult patch. It does Sotheby's no harm in New York to be headed by a well-known billionaire. Some of the collections which held off when the saleroom seemed to be

in financial crisis ended up under the hammer in the spring.

But Mr. Taubman's contribution has been more than restoring confidence. He invited some very rich men to join a new board, including Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza, the world's biggest private collector of paintings. In the past the Baron bought at Sotheby's but did not sell through them. Now he is doing so. London is disposing of a work by Zurbaran for him for £70,000.

Mr. Taubman is also investing in the modernisation of the company — word processors are arriving at the Sotheby's warren of a headquarters in Bond Street — and in the staff: salaries have risen sharply, which has added to the confident mood.

Some of the higher turnover of the salerooms is accounted for by the strength of the dollar, which inflates the sterling figures. It also brings over to London many more American buyers: it was notable that private Americans secured the two most expensive lots at Christie's sale of the Old Master drawings from Chatsworth, including the Raphael head which made £3.6 million. They even out-bid the fabulously wealthy Getty Museum.

It was noticeable that the top end of the market was easily the strongest this season, with rare and exceptional items usually selling far in excess of estimate. This is because each year there are fewer and fewer such treasures free to come on to the market. It also means that the saleroom boom is based on a relatively small number of buyers. If the American economy faltered it would quickly be reflected in the auction houses. As it is they enter the new season in the autumn with optimism, with many important collections waiting in the wings.

An obvious gap is developing in the auction world between Sotheby's and Christie's and the other salerooms. Phillips, the third lar-

gest, had a good year by its standards, with a 16 per cent rise in sales; but to £44.1 million. Sotheby's raised £28.1 million in a couple of hours at an impressionist picture sale in New York in May. Although 45 per cent of Sotheby's turnover comes from lots of £5,000 and under there is very little profit at the bottom end of the market. Indeed the auction house is re-examining its "fast sales" operation, which looks after low priced items.

The expensive lots have captured the headlines (and boosted the profits of Sotheby's and Christie's) — the record price for an item in the saleroom (the \$1.4 million paid at Sotheby's for the Gospels of Henry the Lion), the record for a picture (a mysterious British buyer paid £7.37 million at Christie's this month for a Turner seascape); records for a work by Gauguin, for a contemporary artist (£1.2 million for a painting by Mark Rothko), a piece of silver (the Duke of Northumberland's "Shield of Achilles"), down to the record for a doll (£17,600), for a campaign medal (£55,000 for the Oates of the Antarctic medal), and most recently the record of £4,620 for a golf club and £2,200 for a golf ball.

British museums may not have much money but American and continental ones are well endowed and aware that if they do not bid strongly for rare works of art now they may never have another opportunity.

The middle market, where antique dealers form the bulk of buyers, had a more mixed season, but it is generally firm, again boosted by American buying.

In this bright picture there is the odd cloud, floating across from Brussels. European Economic Community (EEC) regulations on VAT and contemporary works of art could, if applied, threaten London's pre-eminence as an entrepot for international dealers in this sector. But Sotheby's and Christie's, with a confidence built up over two centuries, believe they can deflect the threat and continue their current remarkable success. — Financial Times news feature.

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East Germany sets new world swimming record

MOSCOW (R) — East Germany's women swimmers smashed another world relay record at the "Friendship-84" games Friday, setting a new time in the 4x100 metres medley after their 4x100 metres freestyle record on Tuesday.

The East German quartet of Ina Kleber, Sylvia Gerasch, Ines Geisler and Birgit Meineke won the medley in four minutes 03.69 seconds, well inside the previous world record of 4:05.79 also set by East Germany in August last year.

On the first leg of the medley, Kleber set a world 100 metres backstroke record with a time of one minute 00.59 seconds, beating the previous best of 1:00.86 set by her compatriot Rica Reinisch at the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

Five world records have fallen so far in the Olympic pool at the games, four of them to East Germany's remarkable women swimmers.

Gerasch, who swam the breaststroke leg of the medley, broke the 100 metres breaststroke record Thursday.

Soviet Sergei Zabolotnov, who hoped to add to the 200 metres backstroke record he set on Tuesday, could manage only fourth place in the 100 metres backstroke Friday.

The event was won by European record holder Dirk Richter of East Germany in 55.67 seconds, faster than American Rick Carey's gold medal-winning time of 55.79 seconds at the Los Angeles Olympics.

Los Angeles Olympics.

Another East German star, Ute Geweniger, came close to breaking her own world record in the women's 200 metres medley. She won in two minutes 11.79 seconds, only 0.06 of a second short of the mark.

Alexander Prigoda of the Soviet Union won the men's 200 metres butterfly with a national record of 1:58.83, but he was well outside the world time of 1:57.04 set at Los Angeles by Australia's Jon Sieben.

The women's 800 metres freestyle was won by East Germany's Astrid Strauss in 8:29.35, more than four seconds outside the winning Los Angeles time of 8:24.95 of American Tiffany Cohen.

The Soviet Union won five of six rowing events which ended Friday, sweeping the single sculls, quadruple sculls, coxless pairs, coxed fours and coxed eights races while East Germany took the double sculls. All events were rowed over 1,000 metres.

Reuter criticised

Meanwhile, a Moscow newspaper Friday criticised a Reuter story which said the Soviet media had denigrated the results of the

Los Angeles Olympics and had compared them with those at game currently being held here.

"None of the sports officials in the socialist countries or the participants in Friendship-84 (games) were setting out to prove that these tournaments were superior to the Olympics," the Moscow News, a newspaper for foreigners, said.

The official Soviet news agency TASS, which carried an excerpt from the Moscow News article, said the paper took exception to the Reuter report that Eastern bloc athletes aimed to show what the world had missed at Los Angeles.

"No one was or is going to show 'what the world missed'," the article said.

TASS added: "Moscow news recalls in the same article that at the track-and-field competitions in Moscow and in Prague the results in 20 events were better than those at the 1984 Olympics."

The Reuter story cited in the newspaper attack was a report on the opening of the games on Aug. 17.

It quoted official Soviet reports comparing the Los Angeles Olympics to Nazi Germany's 1936 games and dismissing the Olympic results as without meaning.

In particular it quoted Pravda as saying the Moscow Games would show the world that communism "provides more favourable facilities for the human being's all-round physical and spiritual development."

Sri Lanka shines against England at Lord's

LONDON (R) — Opener Sidath Wettimuny set a Sri Lankan test record with 173 not out as Sri Lanka continued to pile on the runs on the second day of the cricket test against England at Lord's.

At tea Sri Lanka were 370 for four in their first innings with captain Duleep Mendis unbeaten on 52.

Wettimuny, who was on 116 when Sri Lanka resumed at 226 for three Friday morning, continued to defy an England attack lacking the necessary penetration on an easy-paced pitch.

The elegant right-hander played some perfectly-timed drives and cuts while 20-year-old Arjuna Ranatunga proved the perfect partner with his classical straight driving.

The pair took their fourth-wicket partnership to 148 when pace bowler Jonathan Agnew received some compensation for a frustrating day by bowling Ranatunga for 84 with the score at 292.

Wettimuny made his painstaking way to 150 and seven runs later he equalled his previous Sri Lankan record of 157 set against Pakistan in 1982.

Mendis had the perfect platform for an assault on the England bowlers and he immediately announced his presence with a hook and off-drive for fours off Agnew.

With the total at 304 Mendis smashed back a difficult return chance which Agnew could not hold and then added to the fast bowler's agony with a fierce late cut to the third-man boundary.

Ian Botham tried to test Mendis with a bouncer but it was too short and too slow and the Sri Lankan hooked it into the crowd for six.

Botham persisted with his short-pitched tactics and Meodis responded with two further towering sixes, the second of which took Sri Lanka past 350.

Mendis completed a sparkling 50 in 64 minutes off just 52 with three sixes and four fours and Botham retired from the attack after conceding 26 runs off three overs.

Off-spinner Pat Pocock, the pick of the England attack, put a temporary brake on the scoring but at the interval the pair had already added 78 for the fifth wicket.



Bahraini's Nadia Boujiri (right) Friday plays Jordan's Lubna Hawwash to win the gold medal in the singles final of the ninth Arab Table Tennis Championships (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allam)

Saudi, Libyan, Bahraini and Tunisian win gold medals in table tennis

AMMAN (J.T.) — Single matches of the ninth Arab Table Tennis Championship ended Friday when Saudi Re'd Al Hamdan won the gold medal for men and Tunisian Fayzeh Ibn Isa won the gold medal for women.

Libyan Taher Al Mahjoub won the gold medal for juniors while

Bahraini Nadia Boujiri won the gold medal for women juniors beating Jordanian champion Lubna Hawwash. Hawwash won the silver medal. The doubles and mixed double finals will be played today, Saturday. Jordan has qualified to play for the bronze medal in mixed doubles.

Lendl beats Nastase to enter Jericho 2nd round

JERICHO, New York (R) — Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia, tuning himself up for next week's U.S. Open, had a minor scare before beating veteran Romanian Ilie Nastase in the first round of a \$150,000 tournament Thursday.

Lendl, the top seed here, was taken to a first set tiebreaker in which he squeezed home 7-5. The second set was decided on a single service break to give the Czechoslovak a 7-6, 6-3 victory over 38-year-old Nastase.

"I wasn't surprised to get such a hard match from Ilie," said Lendl. "He still serves well, hits well and anticipates well."

Second seed Andrea Gomez of Ecuador stopped 21-year-old Paul Annacone, an American who reached the Wimbledon quarterfinals in his professional debut last month, 6-3, 7-6. Again, there was only one service break in the

match. Gomez took a 3-0 lead against Annacone and rode out the first set. He then won the second set tiebreaker, 7-3, with Annacone serving eight aces and double-faulting six times.

Unseeded Heinz Gunthardt of Switzerland beat third-seeded Henrik Sundstrom of Sweden 6-4, 6-2 Wednesday.

"It's the first time in four tries that I was able to beat Sundstrom," Gunthardt said after scoring three service breaks. "Sundstrom had trouble with the wind and then started to lose confidence."

In other first round matches, fourth-seeded Jimmy Arias of the United States defeated Wojtek Fibak of Poland 6-4, 6-4, and sixth-seeded Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia beat Jose Higueras of Spain 6-3, 6-2.

Piquet dominates Dutch Grand Prix practice

ZANDVOORT, Netherlands (R) — World champion Nelson Piquet scorched to a Zandvoort track record in Friday's first official practice session for the Dutch Formula One Grand Prix, but doubts remained about his Brabham's reliability.

The Brazilian completed the seaside circuit in one minute

13.872 seconds, an average speed of 207.212 kph, half a second faster than the previous best time set two years ago.

Piquet has consistently been one of the fastest drivers this year but holds only fifth place in the world championship standings because of problems with his BMW-powered Brabham.

Connors advances to ATP semifinals

KINGS ISLAND, Ohio (R) — Second-seeded Jimmy Connors advanced to the quarterfinals of the \$300,000 Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) championship Thursday by defeating fellow American and Davis Cup teammate Peter Fleming 6-1, 6-4.

Connors capitalised on some erratic serving by Fleming to win the match in one hour, one minute. His previous two wins here — over Americans Roscoe Tanner and Mike Bauer — took 49 minutes and 51 minutes, respectively.

"He was trying to put a little too much on his serve, and I was getting some good returns in so he got discouraged," Connors said.

Connors was joined in the quarterfinals by 14th seeded American John Sadri, who overcame Rodney Harmon of the United States 6-4, 6-1.

Earlier in the day Harmon had upset seventh-seeded Guillermo Vilas of Argentina in a match held over from the previous day.

"That must be tough," Sadri said. "The guy is coming off the biggest win of his life a few hours earlier, and then has to come out and play again. He did not even get 24 hours to enjoy it."

Harmon, 23, defeated Vilas, 32, with surprising ease.

Vilas required three hours and 20 minutes to beat Tom Gullikson 7-6, 6-7, 7-6 in the first round on Tuesday.

The only other seed to fall Thursday was 16th seeded American

Brian Teacher who went down 4-6, 7-6 (17-15), 7-5 to fellow countryman Mel Purcell.

Many competitors were forced to play two rounds Thursday because of a delay in the match schedule caused by rain Wednesday. One of them was Purcell, who lost his third round tie against qualifier Dan Cassidy of the U.S. 7-6, 6-4.

Four Swedes advanced to Friday's quarterfinals, including the No. 3 seed and defending champion Mats Wilander, a 6-2, 6-3 winner over fellow Swede Thomas Hogstedt.

Other Swedes in the quarterfinals were fifth seed Anders Jarryd, who beat Shlomo Glickstein 6-3, 6-2, eighth seed Joakim Nystrom, who beat South African Derek Tarr 6-3, 6-2 and 11th seed Stefan Edberg, who ousted Briton John Lloyd 7-5, 6-1.

In other second-round play on Wednesday, unseeded Vijay Amritraj of India, who upset top-seeded John McEnroe in the first round, collapsed from heat exhaustion following his loss to countryman Ramesh Krishnan 6-2, 4-6, 6-2.

The unseeded Krishnan felt Amritraj's three-set win over McEnroe Thursday may have weakened his Davis Cup teammate.

"He played a long match yesterday," Krishnan said. "And we had another long match today. The heat takes a lot out of you."

McEnroe, Navratilova set for easy start in U.S. Open

NEW YORK (R) — John McEnroe and Martina Navratilova, top seeds in the U.S. Open tennis championships starting on Tuesday, looked set for easy first round matches after Thursday's draw here.

Wimbledon champion McEnroe faces Britain's Colin Dowdell, ranked 71st in the world, while Navratilova, the Wimbledon and U.S. Open women's title-holder, plays American Lea Antonopolis, who holds 87th place in the world rankings.

Second seed Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia has a tougher opponent than McEnroe in 34th-ranked Brian Teacher of the U.S., but third seed and defending champion Jimmy Connors should have little difficulty in beating fellow American Matt Mitchell, who is ranked 124th.

Sweden's Mats Wilander, seeded fourth, also looks to have an easy task against Glen Michibata of Canada, who holds 104th place in the rankings.

Women's second seeded Chris Evert Lloyd takes on fellow American Sharon Walsh, while third seed Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia plays Pat Medrado of Brazil.

Ashford, Lewis prove supremacy as Brisco-Hooks goes down to Koch

ZURICH (R) — Evelyn Ashford of the United States shattered her own world 100 metres record, Carl Lewis dismissed the challenge of his U.S. compatriot Calvin Smith and East Germany's Marita Koch humiliated Valerie Brisco-Hooks of the United States in an action-packed evening of athletics here Wednesday night.

The international permit meeting was the first major confrontation between Western athletes and competitors from the Eastern bloc who were denied a chance to show their paces at the Los Angeles Olympics because of the Soviet-led boycott.

The clash between Olympic champion Ashford and East Germany's world champion Marlies Goehr in particular had been eagerly awaited in view of the indecisive nature of their last meeting at last year's inaugural world championships.

On that occasion Ashford dropped out in agony with a pulled muscle after 60 metres of the final and the Eastern bloc boycott this year denied her the chance of revenge.

The 27-year-old Ashford recovered sufficiently to win the Olympic trials 100 metres and triumphed in Olympic record time in Los Angeles. But she was in no doubt she had to beat Goehr to prove herself the world's true number one.

This she did in the most emphatic fashion possible Wednesday night, scorching across the finish line in 10.76 seconds to break her record set in favourable high-altitude conditions by three hundredths of a second.

Goehr was well back in second place to 10.84 and as Ashford realised she had defeated her arch-rival she raced around the track in a victory celebration to thunderous applause.

Lewis, the winner of four gold medals at Los Angeles, made no contest of the 100 metres, equalling his Olympic time of 9.99 and pushing Smith, the world recordholder who could not make the formidable American team in either individual sprint event, into a dismal fourth place.

Lewis' win followed a comfortable victory over the same distance in Budapest on Monday and gave the appreciative crowd a sight of his rare talent.

Koch, the world champion and recordholder, made no contest of the 200 metres when she breezed away from a field including Olympic champion Brisco-Hooks.

Brisco-Hooks, who emerged from obscurity to capture three gold medals and two Olympic records in Los Angeles, limped home in fourth position.

Jarmila Kratochvilova, the 33-year-old Czechoslovak, who was as dominating a figure as Lewis in the world championships, won the women's 800 metres.

Olympic 1,500 metres champion Sebastian Coe of Britain won the event in 3:32.79. Los Angeles 800 champion Joaquim Cruz of Brazil took his speciality race in 1:42.34 and Morocco's 5,000 metres champion Said Aouita went inside 3:50 for the mile by six hundredths of a second but was still well short of Coe's world record of 3:47.33.

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Cinema CONCORD Tel: 44082-44280 HISTORY OF THE WORLD (Colour) Tel: 677420 Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	Cinema AL-HUSSEIN Tel: 22117 VIGILANTE (Colour) Performances: 12-3, 5:30-8	Cinema RAINBOW Tel: 25155 SKAPETOWN U.S.A (Colour) 3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.	Cinema ZAHARAN Tel: 23171 SPREADING-OUT (Colour) "Italian Film" Performances: 12-3, 5:30-8	Cinema OPERA BEST FRIENDS Abdell, behind ALIA offices	Cinema PALESTINE Tel: 22117 1. The Volcano 2. Bruce Lee and the Bronze Men. (Colour) Performances: 12-3-7	Cinema RAGHADAN Tel: 22198 SHARABI "Indian film" (Colour) Performances: 12-3-5:30-8
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Jeffrey

Is hope the poor man's bread?

By Abdul Bari Al Sheikh Ali

VIENNA (OPECNA) — Those who believe the outcome of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) IV is not a failure live in the hope that the West will increase its financial contributions to the organisation when it becomes a specialised agency.

In this regard, there is a proverb which says: "Hope is the poor man's bread".

Such hope makes a good breakfast but a bad supper.

There is also a counter proverb, which is perhaps more valid, given the present North-South relationship: "He who lives by hope will die by hunger."

At UNIDO IV, the industrialised countries tried to shun such key issues as industrial restructuring and redeployment and financial aid for the Third World.

To be fair, the West is not homogeneous — many European countries are basically willing to help the developing world. But under the stick of the Reagan administration's policy, they toed the right line.

UNIDO IV gave a clear signal to those who still believe in global negotiations as the only way to restructure the world economic order that such a path is firmly closed.

Catchwords like interdependence, mutual interest and cooperation are rapidly vanishing from the vocabulary of the rich countries.

The end result is that cooperation among developing countries themselves is needed more than ever before, with a revitalisation of the Caracas plan of action.

The Reagan administration is clearly spelling out its view that aid should be channelled on a free enterprise, private industry basis — consolidating its non-acceptance of the U.N. aid target of 0.7 per cent of the Growth National Product (GNP) — for industrialised countries.

Ironically, this hard-line approach has emerged at a time when the financial resources of developing countries are weaker than ever as a result of the high cost of debt servicing, fed by soaring interest rates, and the deterioration of export purchasing power.

Some countries are being forced to borrow simply to meet the escalating cost of paying off their already huge debts.

According to a recent financial study, in 1982, Brazil diverted 81 per cent of its new borrowing to meet interest payments.

In 1983, the proportion had risen to 83 per cent, and this year it is expected to reach at least 87 per cent.

Every nine per cent rise in interest rates costs Brazil close to \$700 million a year.

A three per cent rise means it has to boost its export earnings by nine per cent — more than the total increase registered in 1983 — just to stand still.

Other countries are in even worse shape than Brazil because of the decline in their exports by both volume and value.

Some heavily indebted countries are now net suppliers of funds to Western banks, according to the Bank for International Settlements.

All these factors add up to the fact that many developing countries are experiencing zero economic growth or less.

At the UNIDO IV conference, the industrialised countries placed great weight on the argument that economic recovery in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation Development (OECD) is the key to Third World development.

But this viewpoint is not valid because there is no causality here.

The problem of developing countries is not how to increase the volume of their export but to promote their industry and to give them an equitable share in world output and trade.

The Lima plan of action — to boost the Third World share of global industrial output to 25 per cent by the year 2000 — was conceived nine years ago in an era of economic boom. It now seems unrealistic, although the objective behind the target remains fair and valid.

There is no doubt the West is underestimating the danger that could result from further economic deterioration of the Third World.

It has to be recognised that the International Monetary Fund (IMF), with its austere conditionality policies, is not the appropriate remedy for the crippling financial problems of developing countries.

Calls for an international conference to tackle the world's financial problems should be answered, despite the reluctance of the OECD, if only to carry on where UNIDO IV faltered.

Without such an initiative, the long-term political consequences could spark a crisis of unimaginable proportions.

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Contracting difficulties surface in S. Arabia

BAHRAIN (R) — One of Saudi Arabia's top five contracting and construction companies has asked its bank lenders to agree to a standstill in repayments of principal on its substantial bank debt, banking sources said.

They said the request by the Ali and Fahd Shobokshi Group, also a diversified conglomerate with publishing, agency and real estate interests, is an indication of the difficulties faced by contractors in Saudi Arabia as the economy there slows down because of reduced oil income.

The sources said the company's 80 or so bank lenders have received requests for an initial three-month standstill in repayments of principal of its bank debt of at least \$400 million of debt, according to the most conservative estimates passed on to bankers by the company itself.

Iran cuts oil output

TEHRAN (Agencies) — Iran has reduced its crude oil production to safeguard OPEC unity, Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi said Thursday.

He added that Iran was now producing only half of its OPEC-allocated quota of 2.4 million b/d. "Despite Iran's need to increase foreign currency reserves and the recent \$1.50 cut in the price of Soviet oil, Iran has taken the voluntary decision to defend the OPEC price structure," Mr. Gharazi stated.

The minister said the organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was being subjected to pressure from "international companies and imperialist powers" in a bid to weaken it.

Meanwhile, Gulf oil traders said Thursday that Iran is facing growing pressure to reinstate big discounts on its oil price as oil markets recover amid firm action by OPEC to curb output and defend its official tariffs.

Apart from its struggle to find buyers at official prices, they believe that air attacks on tankers using Iraq's ports may cause lasting damage to long-standing ties with major buyers.

Customers such as Japan appear to be increasingly shy of running the gauntlet of Iraqi air raids in the northern Gulf.

Unless Iran slashes its prices, Japanese traders are evidently prepared to rely more on Arab states at the southern end of the waterway for their needs, they said.

Signs of this appeared Wednesday in official data on Japanese oil imports, showing a sharp rise in purchases from Saudi Arabia and Qatar in July at the expense of Iran.

This was despite a lull in the "tanker war" for much of July and fairly large Iranian price discounts.

Real estate investments in Egypt and Britain were likely to be sold, but sales of the company's extensive Saudi real estate holdings were unlikely because of the depressed Saudi market, the bankers said.

Some of these investments had been funded with short-term loans, which were vulnerable as banks became concerned about the company's cash flow difficulties and reduced or terminated lines of credit.

The Jeddah-based company has a balance sheet of around three billion riyals (\$850 million), bankers said. Its contracting subsidiary alone has estimated annual revenues of more than one billion riyals (\$280 million).

Company officials contacted in Jeddah and officials of the First National Bank of Chicago, one of the company's major banks, declined comment on the matter.

Bankers view Shobokshi's difficulties as part of a wider problem for construction contractors in the kingdom.

Era of big contracts is over

Saudi Arabia, faced with sharply lower oil revenues because of the world oil glut, has to manage its own cash more carefully than in the past.

Some said they would require more financial details before agreeing to the request to delay its repayments schedule.

They said the request by the Ali and Fahd Shobokshi Group, also a diversified conglomerate with publishing, agency and real estate interests, is an indication of the difficulties faced by contractors in Saudi Arabia as the economy there slows down because of reduced oil income.

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Key economic statements, including this year's budget speech from King Fahd, have emphasised that the era of the big contract is over in Saudi Arabia.

The situation has also resulted in fewer advanced payments and substantial delays in progress payments for contractors, which have had to turn to banks for bridging finance.

Bankers said Saudi Arabia's support for Iraq in its four-year-old war with Iran, estimated at at least \$10 billion annually, also drains the government coffers and provides no stimulus to the

Saudi economy. "There has to be a shake-out soon in the construction market," one banker said. "The infrastructure programme is over and the era of the megaproject is over."

Some bankers say the construction sector in Saudi Arabia is a general source of concern to them as lenders.

"We have already seen a number of bankruptcies in the kingdom and we'll see more, particularly if there's another year of delayed payments," another banker added.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, AUG. 25, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Until noon you will have the chance to see how you can get ahead in a very successful manner by the special talents with which you are endowed, so get into a positive and active state of mind.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You can get into the entertainments that you most enjoy today, so contact your friends early in the day.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A good day to invite friends in, particularly those of different background to yours. Reach a new accord with kin by being thoughtful.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Make those telephone calls that will bring in the benefits you want and need. Be most careful in matters of all kind.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Elevate your consciousness so that you can get more of the good things of life now and in the future.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Think along lines of personal expansion and then go after your aims in a positive way. Be with friends who appreciate and understand you.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Formulate a plan that can help you to have more of the good things of life and then follow through on it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Permit a good friend to help you in gaining personal wishes more quickly today. You are inspired about the days ahead.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) The morning is apt to be slow but later you can get a bigwig to assist you with your talents. Be happy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Early make careful plans and then be off to the places where you can get important data you need.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Fine Saturday to handle responsibilities nicely but also to find more up-to-date systems of operating.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You may find it hard in the morning to contact a partner but keep trying since a meeting could prove very worthwhile.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A good day to get into tasks that are hard to do during very busy work days, but first analyze them well.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she can look at everything from its broadest scope and potentiality, so be sure to give the finest education so that the most can be made of this fine quality. Be sure to praise for any exceptional work that is done and raise the incentive, and your expectations can be met. One whose star can take to a very great height.

THE Daily Crossword by Olive Dunn

ACROSS	25 Scenic work of art	52 London streetcar	20 Wing-like
1 Equal	28 — grates	53 Weirid	22 Summer drink
5 Son of Isaac	29 Antique	54 Accurate marksman	24 Impasse
9 Give sparingly	30 Walks along	57 Spouse	25 Eur. tree
13 Urgency	32 Navy official abbr.	58 — fixa	26 Zeno's town
14 Urban area	36 Stalks	60 Gunpowder	27 Juicy fruit
15 Silk area	38 Flurry	61 Lamb	31 Prescribed amount
18 Roman underworld	39 Form of teapsooting	62 Location	33 Measure of length
19 Gem	40 Footing	63 US drama-tist	34 Defendant in old
21 Jap. abo-rigine	41 Call city	64 Schlism	35 Ruman law
19 Expression-less face	43 Actor's	65 Mound	36 Pettiole
21 Highway foundation	44 GI address	66 Hindu garment	37 Spenger
23 Divest	46 Turnor	DOWN	39 Chmr
24 Imposed time limit	48 Burdensome person	1 Reduce gradually	39 mambars
			41 Vapki

U.S. president says Democrats, Mondale 'are relics of the past'

Reagan accepts party nomination

DALLAS (R) — Amid deafening cheers and chants of "four more years," President Reagan Thursday night accepted the Republican Party nomination for a second term and promised that, with him at the helm, "greatness lies ahead of us."

Portraying Democratic opponent Walter Mondale and his party as failed relics of the past, the 73-year-old president said in a nationally televised address to the Republican national convention: "America is presented with the clearest political choice of half a century."

"The choices this year are not just between two different personalities, or two different political parties. They are between two different visions of the future, two fundamentally different ways of governing. Their government of pessimism, fear and limits or ours of hope, confidence and growth."

He said he had begun a conservative revival against big government and high taxes at home, restored patriotic pride and stood up to the Russians abroad in his first four-year term.

"Now, it's all coming together. With our beloved nations at peace, we are in the midst of a springtime of hope for America," he declared.

"Greatness lies ahead of us."

It was Reagan's only appearance before the four-day convention, which renominated him and Vice President George Bush Thursday night, and his adoring supporters turned the occasion

into a jubilant celebration.

Warmed up by a hard-hitting anti-Mondale speech by Mr. Bush and an inspirational film about Mr. Reagan, the convention delegates waved thousands of tiny American flags and Reagan-Bush campaign banners, danced to brass band music and cheered themselves hoarse at the very sight of their hero.

Contrary to Mr. Mondale's charge that Mr. Reagan would raise taxes if reelected, he said he intended to lower them if possible.

He blamed Congress for record deficits built up in his term, saying: "We could say they (Democrats) spend money like a drunken sailor but that would be unfair to drunken sailors."

On Democratic charge that his policies favour the rich and hurt the poor, the president said the poor had suffered worse fates under the opposition party.

"Teenage drug use, out-of-wedlock births and crime increased dramatically," he said.

A hard-line boost on foreign affairs drew one of the loudest ovations of all, when Mr. Reagan said: "In the four years before we took office, country after country fell under the Soviet yoke."

"Since Jan. 20, 1981, not one inch of soil has fallen to the Com-

munist."

Mondale resumes campaign

In Minneapolis Democratic presidential nominee Walter Mondale put the troubles which have beset his campaign behind him Friday to go on the offensive against Mr. Reagan and his Republican Party.

A Mondale spokesman said now that Reagan had been nominated to run for a second term, Mr. Mondale considered Friday's campaign swing into Illinois "his first opportunity to begin the general election debate between himself and President Reagan."

In a review of this week's Republican Party nominating convention, Mr. Mondale charged the Republicans with avoiding the key issues of the campaign.

"They're been concentrating more on what they're against, really, than on what they're for," said a Mondale press spokesman.

"Mr. Mondale's first stop was in Springfield, the state capital.

Mr. Mondale's return to the campaign trail followed nearly a week spent at home while the furor surrounding running-mate Geraldine Ferraro's family finances and taxes grew and then largely subsided with her disclosure of financial records.

The Ferraro flap came after Mr. Mondale's ill-fated attempt to bring Burt Lance, the controversial former budget director in the Carter administration, into his campaign. It left Mr. Mondale fighting problems in his own camp

rather than campaigning against Mr. Reagan.

Arson blamed for Dallas fire

The blaze which broke out early Thursday in the Texas School Book Depository, notorious for its connection with the murder of President John F. Kennedy, was started deliberately, a fire department spokesman said.

The fire started simultaneously in several parts of the basement of the seven-story brick building on the Western edge of the Dallas business district, he said.

He estimated damage at \$250,000, affecting mainly items stored in the basement, but the building itself suffered little structural harm.

About 100 firemen battled the flame and smoke for two hours to bring the fire under control.

Most of the building was unoccupied but a local historical society plans to create a museum of the sixth floor from which Lee Harvey Oswald shot Kennedy in 1963.

The fire broke out a few hours after the Republican national convention, meeting in Dallas, overwhelmingly nominated President Reagan as their candidate for a second term.

The building is a source of embarrassment for some Dallas residents. Several prominent citizens have recently advocated replacing it with a car park.



President Ronald Reagan shares a laugh with first lady Nancy Reagan and Vice-President and Mrs. George Bush Wednesday night in Dallas after he was nominated by the Republican Party for a second term (AP wirephoto).

Vatican denounces book alleging Pope is briefed weekly by CIA

VATICAN CITY (R) — The Vatican, in an unusually quick response, Thursday strongly denounced a new book that asserts Pope John Paul receives a weekly briefing from the CIA as "absurd and devoid of any foundation."

A statement by Deputy Vatican Spokesman Father Pierfrancesco Pastore referred to the book, the Year Of Armageddon by British authors Gordon Thomas and Max Morgan-Witts published Thursday in London.

"Regarding the news published in the book in question, according to which the Pope receives a report every Friday from an official of the CIA in Rome with confidential information, news, photographs, etc., I am authorised to affirm that it is absurd and devoid of any foundation," Fr. Pastore said.

The U.S. embassy in Rome and the CIA in Washington have declined to comment on the book.

The authors said the alleged weekly briefing had become the Pope's most trusted source on world affairs.

They say the Pope studies the data after dinner if anything needs amplification, he sends for the CIA station chief the next day.

Thomas told Reuters the Vatican had not made any effort to stop publication of the book, which is intended as a contemporary study of papal policy

and the Pope's preoccupation with averting a nuclear holocaust.

The book says the briefing generally contains highly-classified CIA documents on Soviet operations, economic assessments, political evaluations and sometimes military predictions.

According to the authors the link with the Vatican goes back almost 40 years from the day one of the CIA founders, Gen. William Donovan, was received by Pope Pius XII.

"From that day Donovan bowed his head before the Pope, the CIA has remained ensconced, virtually without interruption, as the prime intelligence adviser to successive pontiffs," they say.

The book says Pope John Paul began his association with the CIA less than a month after being elevated from a Polish cardinal to the papacy in 1978. He received the CIA station head in Rome in an audience so secret no minutes were made.

The cosy relationship temporarily cooled in 1981 after Turkish gunman Mehmet Ali Agca shot and nearly killed the Pope, according to the book. Some Vatican officials suspected the CIA might have had prior knowledge of the assassination plot.

The CIA impressed the Pope with authoritative data, the book says. It informed him a week be-

forehand that the Polish trade union Solidarity would be banned and its leader Lech Walesa arrested.

The CIA also brought the pontiff first news that Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev was dead, that Yuri Andropov had assumed power, and subsequently that he too had died, the book says.

"It is the CIA which keeps him continuously informed on the situation in Central America, provides him with accurate evidence of the spread of liberation theology, reports the latest behaviour of left-wing clerics in Nicaragua, El Salvador and the many other troublespots where the interests of the Holy See and the United States intersect," the authors write.

The authors wrote a previous bestseller on Vatican affairs entitled Pontiff. Thomas said a number of people in the Vatican were disturbed by the papal association with the CIA.

Thomas said that if the Pope was to be briefed, it was perhaps better that it be CIA rather than the Soviet KGB.

"But we also say that it is wrong for the Pope to be briefed at all," he said in an interview.

"It is not our belief that the leader of the greatest Christian Church in the Western World should have intelligence officers sitting on his doorstep."

West Germany rejects U.S. proposal for defensive barrier

BONN (R) — West Germany rejected Thursday a U.S. proposal that NATO members consider building a defensive barrier of explosive-filled pipes along the border dividing Western and Eastern Europe.

The U.S. Defence Department said Wednesday it had urged NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) to consider the plan as an inconspicuous way of strengthening the alliance's defences in Europe against possible attack by Warsaw Pact nations.

But Bonn Defence Ministry Spokesman Juergen Reichardt said reports that such a proposal was being considered were misguided. He said: "Neither NATO nor the West German army has any plans to erect a system of barriers of any kind along the length of the border."

The U.S. officials said Wednesday the principal director of European and NATO policy, Brig. Gen. Anthony Smith, outlined the plan at a meeting of NATO parliamentarians in Washington on Monday.

Mr. Reichardt confirmed statements by the officials that West

German Armed Forces had tested liquid explosives but said it was totally inadmissible to connect these "routine" operations with alleged plans for a system of pipe bombs.

The U.S. officials said the devices had also been tested recently in South Korea and had proved effective against tanks.

The U.S. plan was mentioned in a recent Pentagon report on improving conventional NATO defences which said NATO military authorities had not yet called for any specific measures because of the political sensitivity of the subject.

The report noted there would be opposition in West Germany to any obvious major construction work, whatever kind of government were in power.

Soviets, Swedes reject report of landings

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet News Agency TASS Thursday condemned as "lies and slander" a report in a British defence yearbook that Soviet commandos had staged scores of landings on the Swedish coast in the past 20 years.

And Swedish defence staff rejected the report saying there was no proof.

The latest edition of Jane's Fighting Ships said Moscow had carried out more than 150 practice raids using elite troops trained for sabotage, reconnaissance and political murder.

The Soviet News Agency TASS said Jane's editor, Navy Captain John Moore, "seems to have decided to beat every record of lies and slander against the Soviet Union."

TASS said: "Captain Moore does not cite a single fact, a single

instance or a specific geographical point to substantiate these inventions. This is understandable as such facts are non-existent."

In Stockholm, a defence staff spokesman said there was no proof of landings. The spokesman said such landings would be acts of war and added the report in Jane's 87th edition was not based on information provided by the Swedish Armed Forces.

Agencies said the two sides exchanged views on current world political issues and expressed the will to work together for nuclear disarmament and an end to the arms race.

Meanwhile, West Germany, seeking despite Soviet criticism to revive détente by closer ties with East Germany and other East-Bloc states, has said it is confident Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu will visit Bonn this autumn.

A government spokesman told Reuters' Wednesday night that Mr. Ceausescu, who in the past has angered Moscow by a maverick line on foreign policy, had agreed to the visit in principle.

"Talks are progressing well on dates and a programme and we confidently expect the visit to go ahead," the spokesman said.

Photos prove Salvadorean massacre

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Human rights officials attacked to El Salvador's Roman Catholic Church have produced photographs of 20 bodies as proof of what they say was an army massacre of civilians last month.

The photographs were taken in three hamlets near the towns of Cinquera and Jutiapa, some 40 kilometres north of the capital by a representative of Tutela Legal, the church's human rights office.

It started an investigation after local residents reported troops of the elite, U.S.-trained Atlacatl Battalion had shot dead some 60

peasants in a search-and-destroy operation in the northern province of Cabanas, burning some of the bodies to eliminate evidence.

Monsignor Ricardo Uriste, one of El Salvador's most senior Catholic clerics, said in his sermon last Sunday that government troops had murdered 68 peasants between July 18 and 22 in Cabanas.

He demanded a government probe into the incident.

Tutela Legal showed Reuters 41 black-and-white photographs of skeletons picked clean by vultures and rotting corpses found in the villages of la Tortuga, El

Cacao and San Antonio.

Defence Ministry Spokesman Ricardo Cienfuegos said on Monday that the army had investigated reports of bombings against the civilian population in the hamlets and added the reports were "negative."

"Of course they found no evidence of bombing," Tutela Legal Director Maria Julia Hernandez told Reuters Friday. "This was no bombing. It was persecution of the people."

She said Tutela Legal had collected sworn testimony from survivors who said soldiers had tortured some of their civilian victims in the three hamlets before shooting them.

Ms. Hernandez said the incident underlined the increasing number of civilian deaths in army operation or bomb raids on suspected guerrilla strongholds in El Salvador.

S. African education office bombed

JOHANNESBURG (R) — An explosion Thursday night thought to have been a bomb wrecked the offices of the government department that runs schools for South African blacks.

Fire gutted the Johannesburg office building hit by the blast, police said.

No one was injured. The nature of the explosive used is not yet known," a police spokesman said.

Meanwhile South Africa vowed Thursday to continue political changes even though only one in five of the mixed-race electorate made use of their first chance to vote.

The government estimated that elections Wednesday for a controversial new parliament attracted only about 32 per cent of the newly-registered voters. Less than 60 per cent of those eligible had registered to vote.

Under the new constitution, due to come into effect next month, the parliament shall exclude blacks, who make up 73 per cent of the population.

South Africa's 2.8-million coloureds and 870,000 Indians will become junior partners in a white-controlled government. The Indians vote next Tuesday.

Anti-apartheid groups had urged a boycott of the polls.

The Labour Party, led by Allan Hendrickse, won massive backing from those coloureds who voted, taking 76 seats out of 80 with all the results in. The People's Congress Party won one and Independents two, with one seat tied.

In Nairobi, the official Kenyan News Agency reported that outspoken South African Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu described the elections as a "monumental hoax."

Bishop Tutu is attending the assembly of the World Conference on Religion and Peace which opened in Kenya Thursday.

Constitutional Development Minister Chris Heunis told state radio that the political reforms would be implemented, despite what he called the relatively low poll.

Mongolia appoints new leader

MOSCOW (R) — Mongolia's leader for more than three decades has stepped down apparently for health reasons and been replaced as ruler of Moscow's oldest Asian ally by his deputy.

Yumzhagin Tsendenbal, 67, head of the Mongolian Communist Party since 1952, was released from office as party leader and president by an extraordinary meeting of the central committee Thursday, the Soviet News Agency TASS reported.

His number two Zhambyn Batmunkh, 57, was appointed party leader and immediately pledged his country's unshakable allegiance to the Soviet Union which he described as a cornerstone of Mongolian foreign policy.

Diplomatic sources in Ulan Bator, Mongolia's capital, contacted by telephone said Mr. Tsendenbal had appeared well during a visit by Vietnamese President Truong Chinh last month but did not appear at a state occasion four days ago.

Western analysts in Moscow said they had been informed that Mr. Tsendenbal had been ill for some time and had undergone treatment in Moscow earlier this year.

They said the high praise heaped upon Mr. Tsendenbal by his successor suggested he was leaving office of his own accord.

In a speech to the party plenum, Mr. Batmunkh praised Mr. Tsendenbal as "an outstanding leader of the party and state" and said his name would be forever linked with "the most important era of Mongolian history — the laying of the basis of Socialism."

He said Mr. Tsendenbal had managed to industrialise Mongolia and reorganise agriculture along Socialist lines, while increasing Mongolia's importance in international affairs.

Mongolia has been a loyal Soviet ally since 1921 when it was supported by Moscow in its declaration of independence from China. It has since relied heavily on the Kremlin for economic and military support.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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ANSWERS TO BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠K93 ♥K865 ♦10763 ♣85

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠
2 ♣ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A. — Partner must have a very strong hand to reverse at the three-level, vulnerable, when he knows you might have nothing. Therefore, we would try three no trump. We are reluctant to raise partner's suit because we don't know whether our major-suit kings would be of any use to partner at a minor-suit game.

Q.2 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K9 ♥962 ♦Q1087 ♣A654

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 2 ♣ Double Pass
2 ♣ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A. — There are only two possible reasons why partner pulled your penalty double. Either his hand is so strong that he does not think that the penalty will compensate for what your side might make; or his hand is distributional and he doesn't think he has the defensive values to allow the double to stand. Since he could do no better than rebid his suit, he almost surely has a weakish, distributional hand. You have some useful values for partner, but they are unlikely to be enough for game. Pass.

Q.3 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K10763 ♥J652 ♦J ♣A98

The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♥ Pass Pass 1 NT Pass ?

What action do you take?
A. — Partner's no trump in the balancing seat shows a hand of less than opening no trump strength — with a balanced 16-18 points he would double first and then bid no trump. Therefore, your side does not have the combined values for game. Pass, despite the unbalanced nature of your hand. Partner surely has values in diamonds, so no trump should be

as good a contract as any.

Q.4 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠96 ♥AQ1095 ♦Q72 ♣654

Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?
A. — Although you do not have enough to force to game, you may issue an invitation. The way to do that is to use the Stayman Convention. Bid two clubs. If partner responds two hearts, raise to three. If he bids two spades, bid two no trump. And if he denies a major with two diamonds, bid two hearts.

Q.5 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q9 ♥10763 ♦QK6 ♣8852

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A. — Despite the fact that you have not promised very much, partner is still probing for game. Only a supreme optimist would consider three no trump — partner has shown heart shortness and your holding hardly constitutes a stopper. Your duty now is to show your spade feature — since you did not support partner's first bid suit at either of your first two opportunities, he cannot expect more than you have. Bid three spades, but we won't criticize a jump to four spades — all your cards are working!

Q.6 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠Q8 ♥KQ652 ♦Q8542 ♣6

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
1 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A. — Your hand has improved considerably, but you don't have enough to force to game. Therefore, we rule out any kind of jump. You have to settle for the underbid of two diamonds. Unless partner can make some move, we don't think you will be missing a game. If you elected to rebid your hearts, you need to brush up on your basic bidding.)

COLUMN

'Dallas' ranch sold to developer

DALLAS (R) — Southfork Ranch, home of the Ewing family in the popular Dallas television series, has been sold to a real estate investor who says he plans to turn it into a major tourist attraction. "We are going to turn it into a convention centre and a very exclusive place to visit for weddings, honeymoons, weekend vacations and tourists," Terry Trippet said in a telephone interview from the ranch north of Dallas. Mr. Trippet said he paid more than \$1 million for the ranch but would not give a specific figure. "If I told you, all my friends would think I'm crazy," he said. "I probably paid a little more than it's worth."

Bangladesh bans dazzling dress in government offices

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh's government has told officials not to wear dazzling dress in offices. An order said officials must wear the traditional pajama and achkan (trousers and full-sleeve coat reaching below the knee) with shoes and socks. Suit and tie are also acceptable. Safari suits are sufficient for other state employees.

French customs seize 57 kg of gold

MAUBEUGE, France (R) — French customs officers Thursday discovered 57 bars of gold each weighing a kilo concealed in a car which had been driven across the border from Belgium. The driver, a 34-year-old Moroccan, told police he had smuggled six similar consignments into France in the past year. The gold had been sold in Paris for shipment to North African countries, customs officials said.

Gold bars dumped at Seoul airport

SEOUL (R) — About 20 kilos of gold bars were dumped at Seoul's Kimpo Airport in a briefcase after customs officers intensified a search for gold smugglers, police said. They said they believed smugglers left the gold bars, worth about \$310,000, after seeing tight screening by customs on information that a large amount of gold was placed on a plane from Osaka, Japan, to Seoul. Local gold prices are normally 10 per cent higher than international prices and dozens of foreigners have been arrested so far this year trying to smuggle gold into South Korea.

Actress released from detention

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's top film and television actress was released from jail Friday after an adultery complaint against her was withdrawn, police said. Chong Yun-Hi was arrested last week after the wife of businessman Chi Kyu-Yong, 38, complained to the authorities about his alleged adultery with the 30-year-old actress. The wife withdrew the complaint after she agreed with Chong on a 100 million won (\$125,000) divorce settlement, police said. Mr. Chong was arrested with the actress and was also released Friday. Film fans expressed shock at the arrest of Ms. Chong who had been known for playing naive, innocent roles. Adultery becomes a criminal offence in South Korea when the spurned spouse files an official complaint.

U.K. newspaper creates first bingo millionaire

LONDON (R) — A Frenzied circulation war among Britain's tabloid national newspapers produced its first "bingo millionaire" Thursday. David Parsons, 39, who owns a sign-writing business in Bristol, western England, won £1 million (\$1.3 million) from the Sun, Britain's biggest-selling paper. The Sun, owned by Australian Rupert Murdoch, thus won a frantic race with the Daily Mirror, Daily Express and Daily Star to be the first to make one reader a millionaire. Czech-born tycoon Robert Maxwell, who bought the Daily Mirror last month, provoked the race by deriding his rivals for having million sterling games that did not produce millionaires and guaranteeing that he would make a Mirror reader one.

John Smith